Ireland Shakspeare
Fabrications.

G. Hilder Libbis.

Copy of the Hon. John Byng's Journal (kept by him solely in relation to the Shakspeare Fabrications and his friendship with the Ireland family. from Dec. 1794 to Dec. 1800) in the Library of Shakespeare's Birthplace. Letters from Sem^l Ireland's Journal have been added where neces

G. Hilder Libbis

Gents Mag Dec. 1812

On Ham Common, aged 72, George Byng, Visc. Torrington. He is succeeded by his only brother, the Hon. John Byng, now Lord Viscount Torrington.

At Binfield, Berks, the Hon. Charles Herbert, second son of the Earl of Carnarvon, to Miss Bridget Augusta Forrest Byng, fourth daughter of the Hon. John B.

From Debrett's Peerage

George 4th Viscount Torrington died 1812 succeeded by his brother John 5th Viscount who died 1813 & was succeeded by his son George 6th Viscount B. 1768 Another & 3rd son was the Hon. John Byng brother to George 6th Viscount.

Gent's. Mag. July 1800.

Monthly Mirror, April 1803 in an account of a fatal duel between Capt. James Macnamara R.N. and Col. Montgomery (brother to Mrs Geo. Byng) the cause being a quarrel caused by a fight between their Newfoundland dogs in Hyde Park, states that Col Montgomery was killed and his body taken to the house of Geo. Byng - his brother-in-law - in St James Squa. The duel took place at Chalk Farm on 6th April 1803

Byng (Geo., 1764-1847, M.P., Middlesex, *by Holl, after Hayter*, 8vo, *india proof on folio paper*, 3s

Viscount Torrington, by Faber, after Davison;

S. Ist in his MSS. Journal of Tours on the Continent etc mentions among the places he has visited or those he intends to visit includes Mr Byng at Kits end.

In Sam. Ireland's copy of Nichol's Brog. Anecdotes of Hogarth 1785 3rd ed. p. XVI, he (S.I) has added to the List of "Collectors of Hogarth" - Mr Byng.

Gents Mag Sept 1794

Rev. Charles Holes, to Miss Anna-Maria Byng, daughter of the Hon. John B. *

Gents Mag Dec 1820

30. The Rev. Colin Campbell, to the Hon. Beatrice Byng, daughter of the late Viscount Torrington. Dec 1820

* This should be Rev. Charles Henry Hall later Dean of Ch. Ch. Oxford

WROTHAM PARK. Middlesex

Admiral Byng was never married, and at his decease the estate came to his nephew, George Byng, Esq., whose eldest son, also George, was for upwards of half a century M.P. for Middlesex, and who died in 1847. Upon the death of his widow, Wrotham Park reverted to his brother John, a gallant Peninsular officer, who was in 1835 created Baron Strafford, and in 1847 advanced to an earldom; and from him it descended, in 1860, to his son, the present peer, who has held several Court and administrative appointments, and as Viscount Enfield was Liberal M.P. for Middlesex.

Jan. 9th 1847

GEORGE BYNG, ESQ., M.P.

Mr. George Byng, the oldest member of the Legislature, "the father of the House of Commons," has just announced his intention of quitting public and

HER MAJESTY'S TWELFTH CAKE.—A magnificent cake, upwards of three feet in diameter, the handiwork of Mr. Mawditt, her Majesty's first Yeoman Confectioner was placed on the side table in the Green Drawing-room, Windsor, to which apartment her Majesty and her distinguished guests retired after the Banquet on Twelfth Day. On the top was a rock, upwards of two feet in height, intended to represent Mount Parnassus, composed chiefly of shells, coral sprigs, and other marine productions, very tastefully displayed; the whole being surmounted by an elaborately executed figure of Apollo. Surrounding the base of the mount were the following, in graceful attitudes, and with appropriate attributes—Clio, Euterpe, Melpomene, Thalia, Terpsichore, Erato, Calliope, Urania, and Polyhymnia. The cake was partaken of by her Majesty, and the distinguished guests at the Castle, during the concert which was performed by the queen's private band, in the Crimson Drawing-room—the music including selections from Auber, Onslow, Mozart, and Rossini.

ADVANCE IN THE PRICE OF SPIRITS.—Owing to the high and increasing prices charged by the principal metropolitan distillers, the licensed victuallers gene

	For the Year.	For the Quarter
Stamps	£220,700	£61,715
Miscellaneous	38,955	
China Money	475,980	300,869
Interest and other Moneys	131,397	32,200
Repayment of advances	408,548	101,730
Total	£1,235,125	£525,459

These figures, however, do not present the most favourable view of the matter inasmuch as they give only the net total, after deducting a decrease of £1,015,225 consisting chiefly of repayments of advances, and of a falling off of the Chinese tribute, which are not included in the general estimates. The statement of the ordinary revenue is very much more brilliant, and shows an increase of £454,66 on the quarter, and £1,028,257 on the year.

It has been usual for many years past, to issue what are called "Deficiency Bills"—*i. e.*, Exchequer Bills to meet the charges on the quarter, to such an extent as the public necessities required. That amount has usually been to the extent of several millions;—and the item was of so invariable an occurrence, that these words were always *stereotyped*, as it were, at the foot of the Revenue accounts:—"The probable amount of Exchequer Bills required to meet the charge on the Consolidated Fund, quarter ending" so and so.

For the first time for a long period that stereotyped line has become useless and is struck out; and, in lieu thereof, we read, "*Surplus* of revenue, after providing for the charges on the Consolidated Fund, and for the Supply, in the quarter ended Jan. 5, 1847."

The amount of this surplus is £1,365,455.

In the Post-office, also, there is an advance of £85,000 on the year, and £14,000 on the quarter.

INDEX

INDEX.

Page

1 View of Anne Hathaway's Cottage from Ireland's "AVON"
1 Verse by W.H.Ireland "Can none remember"
1 Shakespeare's letter re- Ben Jonson being drunk
2 Cutting re-"The Nice Wanton"
7 Feb.4th.1795 Malone's letter to John Byng
11 " 20th. " James Boswell's letter to John Byng
11 " " J.Manby's letter to John Byng
15 April " Lord Harcourt's letter to John Byng
37 " 13th.1796 Wm.Baillie's letter to John Byng
41 " 21st. " " " " " " "
57 May 6th. " " Lewis's letter to John Byng with note by J.B.
63 Transcript of Shakespeare's prayer from an old Primer with a note by J.B. respecting it.
65 W.H.Ireland's lines on Solitude and Reflection.
69 Psedo Shaksperian Acrostic in Spencer's Fairy Queen on Spencer.
69 Pseudo " notes in "Account of.. Conspirators..Gunpowder Plot.
71 John Byng's notes as to the manner in which W.H.Ireland obtained his many rare books.
73 John Byng's account of W.H.Ireland's talk when in his company
71 W.H.Ireland's verses on Clifford Duke of Cumberland
75 " " " Interlude of The Devil and Richard-
83 July 18th.1796 Mrs.WINDER's letter to the Hon.Mrs.Byng
87 W.H.Ireland's lines on "Avarice" written at Mrs.Winder's
12 Powels(D.L.Prompter) letter to Sam'l Ireland with a note by Nixon.
13 John Byng's note to a copy of the Ireland Handbill re-Vortigern
127 Sep.30th.1796 G.Francklyn's letter to John Byng with the a note by J.B.
131 John Byng's remarks on the fabrication
139 " " note re- play called "Bertha"said to be by W.H.I'd
141 Jane Ireland's letter to the Hon.Mrs.Byng undated but shortly before S.I's death
143 " " " " " " " " June 15th.1800
147 John Byng's draft of his reply to S.I's Obituary notice in the Gent's Mag.
155 John Byng's Prologue for Vortigern.
3 Dec.29th.1794 Hon.John Byng's letter to Sam'l Ireland X
7 Jan.14th.1795 " " " " " " "
9 Feb.14th. " " " " " " " "
17 Aug.7th. " " " " " " " "
17 Dec.1st. " " " " " " " "
19 " 8th. " " " " " " " " make Devil appeared

X Suggests W.H.I should go on the Stage

Gents Mag Dec. 1872

INDEX

Page		
19	Dec. 15th. 1795	Hon. John Byng's letter to Sam'l Ireland
23	Jan. 22nd. 1796	" " " " " " "
25	Mar. 29th. "	" " " " " " "
27	Apr. 1st. "	" " " " " " "
35	" 5th. "	" " " " " " "
37	" 12th. "	" " " " " " "
45	" 25th. "	" " " " " " "
47	" 26th. "	" " " " " " "
59	May 15th. "	" " " " " " "
77	June 12th. "	" " " " " " "
97	Aug. 12th. "	" " " " " " "
101	" 18th. "	" " " " " " "
139	Nov. 17th. "	" " " " " " "
78	June 15th "	Mrs B. Byng " " " "
21	Jan. 12th. "	Sam'l Ireland's letter to Hon. John Byng
29	Apr. 4th. "	" " " " " " " "
51	" 26th. "	" " " " " " " " given date of Oaken Chase
55	May 5th. "	" " " " " " "
81	July 9th. "	" " " " " " "
97	Aug. 26th. "	" " " " " " "
91	July 23rd. 1796	Wm. Hy. Ireland's letter to Hon. John Byng
103	Aug. "	" " " " " " " " "
109	Sep. 4th. "	" " " " " " " " "
115	" 15th. "	" " " " " " " " "
119	" 28th. "	" " " " " " " " "
135	No date "	" " " " " " " " "
		but about Oct. and certainly before 17th Nov. 1796.

Copy of Hon. John Byng's Journal.

f. 12. underneath a view of Shakspeare's Cottage from Ireland's Avon, -

Written in W. H. Ireland's autograph

"Can None Remember"? 1795. no 1796.

When Shakspeare like a dazzling meteor Stood,
Perch'd on my Inkstand, near the Thames fair flood;
When folly self my documents all Bore,
Whilst well-bred Guests Stood frighted on the floor;
When the rous'd Critics o'er my Papers Stroode,
And I myself Appear'd the forging God.
Vulcan.

Note by the Hon. J. Byng.

f. 14. Relative to Bitford; and of the Jopers; Sippers; Shakspeares Crab Tree, &c; now in tradition at Stratford-upon-Avon: - I was shown by W. H. I., a letter of W. I. wherein he stated the jeering, taking, rudness of Ben. Johnson, behind the Scenes of the Globe Playhouse: - and writes

"I do not Deny but that yt was one cyder mistake at Bitfordé".

See items Nos 71 & 72 in Harrison's Descriptive Catalogue

2

263 [NICE WANTON] A PRETIE ENTERLUDE CALLED NICE WANTON

Wherin ye may see,
Three braunches of an il tree:
The mother and her Children three,
Two naught and one godly.
Early sharp that wilbe thorne,
Soon il that wil be naught:
To be naught better vnborne,
Better vnfed than naughtily taught.

black letter, 10 *ll.* A–C 2 *in fours, list of nine characters below title, last page occupied by a Song in five* 4*-line stanzas, colophon beneath, unbound*

sm. 4*to.* *Imprinted at London at the long Shop adioyning unto Saint Mildreds Church in the Pultrie, by John Allde, n. d.* (*c.* 1560)

*** AN EDITION OF THE UTMOST RARITY. Apparently only one copy has occurred for sale during the past thirty years. The present edition differs from that recorded in Greg's Hand-list of Plays.

See p. [illegible]

Hon. John Byng to Saml Ireland

Monday Dec.29th.1794.

Dear Sir,

I send to you - The Drawing of our Poet's Kitchen - & my transcript of Kemps Morrice, & The Nice Wanton. Do with them what you like best.- (But you are now a man in a fever - & can think but of one thing ?).

The Poet's Kitchen - deserves to be engraved -

Kemps Morrice will bear Publication but it must be adorn'd - with such Drawings - & such fancies - as may appear best to you & your Daughters.

Is there anything like a Picture - or Print of Kemp, & where ? -

Good Wooden Cuts of the Morrice may be Introduced - a Proper Preface - You can furnish.

Copy the Nice Wanton - if you like it.

I Repeat it - like the Chimes - Urge your Son to Visit his Friend, now, in the Country:- A Moment lost - is an age undone. Did you not hint his Passion for the Stage ? And why not ? - Observing him - he appears to have a quiet Conception, & with a brow & countenance, that will serve him well.

Besides - if he should find - and Carry this Play with him - his Introduction will be grand - his Success Certain ———

"It seems to be proper to say, that there is one class of books in this Catalogue, among which there are some very rare ones that were not purchased by the late Possessor. They were collected early in the late century, when Freethinking was much the fashion. *William Postell, Giordano Bruno*, or *Benedict Spinosa*, could be no favourites with the late Proprietor, who only valued philosophical writers in proportion as they improved the morals of mankind.

"It cannot escape observation, that in this Library there are an uncommon quantity of Trials of Criminals, Detection of Witches, and other impostors. The Duke had a particular pleasure in exercising those discriminating powers, which he so eminently possessed, in tracing out the mazes by which the perverted ingenuity of the human mind often attempts to impose upon the credulity of its fellow-creatures."

The following are among the most remarkable Articles dispersed at this Sale;

The Festival; printed by Caxton, in two columns, 105*l.* bought by Lord Spencer.

The Prouffytable Boke for Mane's Soul, called the Chastysing of Godde's Chyldren; printed by Caxton. 140*l.* Lord Spencer.

Lyf of Saint Katherin of Senis; printed by Caxton. 95*l.* Mr. Clarke.

Sessions' Papers and Trials at the Old Bailey, from 1690 to 1803, 2 vols. in folio, and 80 vols. in 4to. 378*l.* Mr. Reed.

A Translation of Cicero on Old Age; printed by Caxton. 115*l.* Mr. Nornaville.

The Boke of Seynt Albons; printed at

Mr. URBAN, *Sapcote, Jan.* 19.

FIG. 3. is an exact representation of a curious monumental relick found in the church-yard of Sapcote, in the county of Leicester, on Saturday Jan. 18, 1812, about 18 inches below the surface of the earth. It is of calcareous stone, the length 4 feet 9 inches, the breadth, at the greater end, 16 inches, at the lesser end 12 inches, and the depth at the side 3 inches and a half. It rises gradually from each side to the middle of the upper surface, and terminates in a sort of relievo as in the figure. It is highly probable that this stone was a sepulchral covering to one of the ancient family of the Bassets, formerly owners of this parish, and founders of the parish-church, as a small human skeleton, with part of an oak coffin, were found immediately beneath it. It is rather extraordinary that this was placed in a position different from what monumental stones are usually done, its direction being from South-west to North-east. There is no in-

scription or ornament upon it, except what appears in the figure. A stone, nearly of a similar description, was found in this church-yard in the year 1788; for an account of which, by Mr. John Ward, of Hinckley, see Gent. Mag. vol. LVIII. p. 1071, and vol. LIX. p. 100. W. SPENCER.

THE ROXBURGHE SALE.

NO Sale of Books ever engrossed a larger share of public attention than the extensive and valuable Library of the late JOHN Duke of ROXBURGHE. The Catalogue was judiciously compiled by Messrs. G. and W. Nicol, and the Books were sold by Mr. Robert Evans of Pall-mall, who for that especial purpose commenced Book Auctioneer; and has given sufficient proof of his skill in that situation, to convince us that he must, in a short time, be excelled by none of his brethren.

The Library was sold at his Grace's late residence in St. James's Square; and so numerous and valuable were the lots, that the Sale lasted 45 days, commencing on the 18th May, and closing on the 8th July. The total produce of the Library (which it is believed did not cost its late noble Owner more than 5000*l.*), was about 23,341*l.*

Prefixed to the Catalogue is a very intelligent Preface; from which we shall select a few extracts; more particularly as the Catalogue itself is not now to be purchased.

"It would be endless, and to the intelligent unnecessary, to point out all the very rare books that will be found in this Catalogue; particularly in those branches of Literature in which the Possessor took delight. He idolized the talents of *Shakspeare* and *Cervantes*, and collected every thing that could illustrate their works. *Early English Literature*, and the *Table Ronde*, were therefore great objects of his research; of the former, there are in this Library, not only the rarest, but, in point of condition, the most beautiful specimens that exist: and every one knows the extreme difficulty of finding early English books in clean condition.

"In the poetical part of this class the Library is very rich. Few English Libraries possess *both* the editions of the celebrated *Satire* on *Cardinal Wolsey*, said to be written by *Roy*, or *two* different editions of the *Paradise of Dainty Devises* — both *England's Helicon*, and *Parnassus*

u will be attack'd

& Inventions -;

ight; & shrink

John Byng)

Ireland's Journal

Parnassus — or both *Webbe's* and *Puttenham's* Art of Poetry. The most curious article in the Lyrical class of Poetry, however, is certainly the very large Collection of *Ancient Ballads*, in 3 volumes, folio.

"As to the Duke's Collection of the *Table Ronde*, his Grace was not satisfied with the printed editions, some of which are uncommonly rare; he also collected many of them in MS. in magnificent volumes, on vellum, illustrated with beautiful illuminations. Among these curious MSS. are several translated by the celebrated *Walter de Mapes*, for the entertainment of his Sovereign Henry II. These literary labours, of so eminent a scholar of his day, are not mentioned by our own literary historians, *Leland*, *Bale*, or *Tanner*, who enumerate his works; nor by *Wolfius*, *Fabricius*, or *Leyserus*, who speak much of him, and preserve some of his poems; particularly *Wolfius*, in his curious work, which he calls *Lectiones Memorabiles*, in two large volumes folio. This literary anecdote, however, is established by *Rusticien de Pise*, who lived soon after *Walter de Mapes*, and who translated several of the Romances in these Collections of MSS. by order of Henry III.

"Among them there is one, *Le Roman de Tristan de Leonnoys*, translated from a MS. preserved at Salisbury by *Luce, de Chatel du Gat*.

"Among the Books printed by *Caxton* in this Collection, which, in point of condition and cleanness, are unparalleled in any Library in the world, there is another instance with what attention his Grace looked into his books. In the *first* book printed by *Caxton* with a date, *the Recuyell of the Historyes of Troye*, fol. 1471, which is also the *first book* printed in the English Language, there is a sheet (to use the *technical* expression of a printing-office) *transposed*, by which means the *pages, not the leaves*, are misplaced. This the Duke has distinctly noted with his own hand, in the book. In the same book is a very curious note, written on vellum, in an antient hand, and modernized by the Duke, which shews that this copy belonged to *Elizabeth Grey*, Queen to Edward the Fourth. It begins thus: "This Boke is mine, Quene Elizabet, late Wiffe unto the most noble King Edwarde the forthe." This lady was sister-in-law to *Margaret Duchess of Burgundy*, at whose command, and under whose patronage, Caxton says, this book was translated and printed. It is therefore not surprizing, that Caxton presented so fine a copy of this book to his Queen, and the sister-in-law of his Patroness.

[illegible], particularly one MS. in two volumes, folio, intituled *La Vengeance de Notre S. J. C.* beautifully written on vellum, and illustrated with a great number of exquisite drawings representing the various scenes of the piece.

"There are also some scarce modern Latin Plays in the Library, among which is a volume that contains, along with another tragedy by the same author, *Incendia seu Pyrgopolinices, Tragœdia, Thoma Naogeorgo Authore*. This piece, though much in the style of collecting in France, is so very rare, that *De Bure* confesses he never saw it. The other piece of Naogeorgus in this volume, viz. *Mercator*, &c. is also scarce, but not so scarce as the French translation by *Jean Crespir*, especially when it is accompanied with another piece, intituled *La Comedie du Pape Malade et tirant à la fin*. The Duke's copy not only contains both these pieces, but another of the same class, by *Theodore Beza*, called *Tragédie Françoise du Sacrifice d'Abraham*. This last piece was unknown to *De Bure*, and does not appear in *Gaignat's*, the *Duke de Valiere's*, or any other known collection.

"It

"It seems to be proper to say, that there is one class of books in this Catalogue, among which there are some very rare ones that were not purchased by the late Possessor. They were collected early in the late century, when Freethinking was much the fashion. *William Postell, Giordano Bruno,* or *Benedict Spinosa,* could be no favourites with the late Proprietor, who only valued philosophical writers in proportion as they improved the morals of mankind.

"It cannot escape observation, that in this Library there are an uncommon quantity of Trials of Criminals, Detection of Witches, and other impostors. The Duke had a particular pleasure in exercising those discriminating powers, which he so eminently possessed, in tracing out the mazes by which the perverted ingenuity of the human mind often attempts to impose upon the credulity of its fellow-creatures."

The following are among the most remarkable Articles dispersed at this Sale;

The Festival; printed by Caxton, in two columns, 105*l.* bought by Lord Spencer.

The Prouffytable Boke for Mane's Soul, called the Chastysing of Godde's Chyldren; printed by Caxton. 140*l.* Lord Spencer.

Lyf of Saint Katherin of Senis; printed by Caxton. 95*l.* Mr. Clarke.

Sessions' Papers and Trials at the Old Bailey, from 1690 to 1803, 2 vols. in folio, and 80 vols. in 4to. 378*l.* Mr. Reed.

A Translation of Cicero on Old Age; printed by Caxton. 115*l.* Mr. Nornaville.

The Boke of Seynt Albons; printed at Saint Albans, 1486, imperfect. 147*l.* Mr. Triphook.

The Mirrour of the World; printed by Caxton, in 1480. 351*l.* 15*s.* Mr. Nornaville.

The Kalindayr of the Shyppers, folio; printed at Paris, 1503. 180*l.* Mr. Nornaville.

Callimachi Hymni. Florence, 1472, 4to. 63*l.* Mr. Payne.

A Discourse of English Poetrie, by W. Webbe, 1586, 4to. 64*l.* Mr. Triphook.

Paradise of Daintie Devises, 4to. 1580, 55*l.* 13*s.* Mr. Rice.

A Collection of Old Ballads, in 3 vols. folio. 477*l.* 13*s.* Mr. Harding.

Guy Earl of Warwick, a metrical Romance; printed by Copeland, 4to. 43*l.* 1*s.* Mr. Heber.

Love's Martyr, or Rosalin's Complaint; by Chester, 4to. 1601. 24*l.* 3*s.* Mr. Dubois.

Gower's Confessio Amantis; printed by Caxton, 1493, folio. 336*l.* Mr. Payne.

Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, a manuscript on vellum, folio. 257*l.*

Chaucer's Works, by Pynson, 1526, folio. 30*l.* 9*s.* Mr. Evans.

The Passetyme of Pleasure, by Stephen Hawys: printed by Wynkyn de Worde, 1517. 81*l.* Rev. Mr. Dibdin.

The Exemple of Vertu, by Stephen Hawys; W. de Worde, 1530. 60*l.* Mr. Rice.

History of King Boccus and Sydrake. 30*l.* Mr. Triphook.

The Complaynt of a Lover's Life, 4to. printed by Wynkyn de Worde. 58*l.* Mr. Nornaville.

The Castell of Pleasure, 4to. by W. de Worde. 64*l.* Rev. Mr. Dibdin.

The Love and Complaynte between Mars and Venus. 60*l.* By Julian Notary. Rev. Mr. Dibdin.

La Conusance d'Amour, by Pynson. 58*l.* Rev. Mr. Dibdin.

Watson's Translation of Brant's Ship of Fools, 4to. 64*l.* Mr. Nornaville.

Churchyarde's Works, 2 vols. 4to. 96*l.* Mr. Triphook.

Le Mystere de la Vengeance de Notre Seigneur J. Christ, 2 vols. folio, MS. 493*l.* 10*s.* Mr. Payne.

Shakspeare's Plays, folio, 1623. 100*l.* Mr. Nornaville.

A Collection of 627 Prints of Theatrical Scenes and Portraits of Performers, 3 vols. folio. 102*l.* 18*s.*

The Nice Wanton, a Comedy, 4to. 1560. 20*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.* Mr. Nicol.

Marlow and Nash's Tragedy of Dido, 1594. 17*l.* 17*s.* Mr. Heber.

Morlini Novellæ, 4to. Neapolis, 1520. 48*l.* Mr. Triphook.

Recueil des Romans des Chevaliers de la Table Ronde, 3 vols. folio, an ancient manuscript. 78*l.* 15*s.* Mr. Triphook.

Le Romant de Fier à Bras le Geant, folio, Genev. 1478. 38*l.* 17*s.* Mr. Triphook

Recueil des Histoires de Troyes, par Raoul Le Fevre, folio. 116*l.* 11*s.* Lord Spencer.

Il Decamerone di Boccaccio, folio, First Edition, printed at Venice by Valdarfer, 1471. 2260*l.*; being the largest sum ever given for a single Volume. Marquis of Blandford.

The Boke of the Fayt of Armes, and of Chyvalrye; printed by Caxton. 336*l.* Mr. Nornaville.

The Veray trew History of the Valiant Knight Jason. 94*l.* 10*s.* Mr. Ridgway.

The Recuyell of the Historyes of Troye, by Raoul Le Fevre. Caxton, 1471. 1060*l.* 10*s.* Duke of Devonshire.

The moost pytefull History of the Noble Appolyn, Kyng of Thyre, 4to. 110*l.* Mr. Nornaville.

History of Blanchardyn and the Princes Eglantyne. Printed by Caxton. 215*l.* 5*s.* Lord Spencer.

Delphin

you will be attack'd

s, & Inventions -;

Light; & shrink

n. John Byng)

m. Ireland's Journal

Delphin Classics, 67 vols. 504*l.* Duke of Norfolk.

Painter's Palace of Pleasure, 1575, 4to. 2 vols. 45*l.* Rev. Mr. Dibdin.

Aldus's Astronomi Veteres, 1499. 16*l.* 16*s.* Rev. Mr. Dibdin.

Arnold's Chron. 22*l.* Rev. Mr. Dibdin.

Hearne's Collection of Ballads, 12mo. 12*l.* 12*s.* Rev. Mr. Dibdin.

Voyage de Breydenbach, fol. 1488. 84*l.*

Lord Berners's Froissart, by Pinson, 1525. 63*l.*

Boece's Croniklis of Scotland, by Bellenden, folio, 1474. 65*l.*

The Compleynt of Scotland, 12mo. original edition, wanting the title, 31*l.* 10*s.*

Thoroton's Nottinghamshire, 16*l.* 16*s.*

Dugdale's Monasticon, 3 vols. 67*l.* 4*s.*

——————— in English, with Steevens's Continuation, 3 vols. 49*l.*

History of Anitent WILTSHIRE, *by Sir* RICHARD COLT HOARE, *Bart. continued from Vol.* LXXXI. *p.* 422.

Mr. URBAN, *Aug.* 1.

I RESUME my remarks on this new and interesting History with the greater pleasure, as, by the subsequent publication of two fresh *livraisons*, the work is now rendered complete, and assumes the form of a very respectable volume.

The same perspicuous order of arrangement is maintained; the Country is divided into Stations, and the Stations into Iters, and each is illustrated with a descriptive map. The first *livraison* included the Stations of *Stourton*, *Warminster*, and *Heytesbury*; in the second we have those of *Wily* and *Amesbury North*; and in the third and last, we find those of *Everley*, *Amesbury South*, *Solisbury*, *Fovant*, and *Hindon*; thus comprehending, in nine Stations, the whole district of *South Wiltshire*.

We are well aware, that, in a work confined to so very early and unenlightened a period of our History, where description cannot borrow the enlivening aid of biography, there must be a great and constant degree of uniformity. This uniformity, however, is frequently interrupted by novelty, an ingredient not so frequently found as we could wish in the modern works of Travellers and Tourists. The true Antiquary *must* read, with satisfaction, the Author's account of the numerous Settlements of the Britons which he has discovered on the most elevated parts of the Wiltshire Downs; and with these the Station of Wily particularly abounds. On a very elevated and conspicuous hill called Bidcomb, there are numerous vestiges of the Britons.

At page 98, I find a very interesting account of a Barrow opened by Mr. Cunnington in the year 1803 at Upton-Lovel, a little village near the river Wily, and which, from the richness of its contents, was denominated by him the *Golden Barrow*:

"At the depth of two feet we found a little pile of burned human bones placed in a shallow bason-like cist; and, at the distance of one foot from the bones, was a considerable quantity of ashes, intermixed with small fragments of burned bones. About two feet from the pile of bones the following articles were discovered: 1. Thirteen gold beads, made in the form of a drum, having two ends to screw off, and perforated in two places on the sides for the purpose of stringing. 2. A thin plate of the same metal, six inches in length, and nearly three in width, richly wrought, and perforated at the four corners. 3. Another ornament in form of a cone, decorated with circles and zigzags, and fitted closely to a piece of dark wood, like ebony, on which the marks of the pattern still appear impressed: the bottom part of this article is also perforated. The above are all of pure but thin gold, neatly worked, and highly burnished. The large flat plate must have been, like the cone, strengthened by a strip of wood behind; and the whole, by their several perforations, are strongly marked as forming the decorative accoutrements of some distinguished British chieftain. Besides the above, were two small articles in gold, resembling little boxes, about an inch in diameter, with a top, in the form of a cone, to take off. Besides the above precious articles of gold, we discovered some large plates of amber, and above a thousand beads of the same substance, and of different sizes; also a curious little cup studded over with projecting knobs, which appear to have been first made in the form of glass stoppers to a bottle, and afterwards inserted into the circular holes of the cup, which had been previously drilled for receiving them: between these grape-like protuberances are other perforations, which still remain open."

"Such was the result of our researches in the year 1803; but, not being completely satisfied, and still thinking that the *primary* interment had escaped our vigilance, I was anxious that a further trial should be made, which took place in July 1807, and was attended with success;

As for yourself - I am thinking how you will be attack'd - & Cut up for most wicked Assertions, & Inventions -; till you can come upon them in broad Light; & shrink them into Shame.

I shall Glory in your Triumph

Yrs.J.B. (The hon.John Byng)

This letter was copied from Saml Ireland's Journal

Copied from Samuel Ireland's Journal.

On Sunday Feb. 1st 1795 Mr Humphrey the painter called at Mr Caldecott's Chambers and left Mr Malone's card - requesting permission for him to call at Mr C's. to view the Shakespeare Papers - to which Mr C. replied that they were not nor ever had been in his possession, but that they were in the hands of Mr Ireland of Norfolk Street where they had been ever since their discovery - and from whence, Mr C. observed, he believed they would not be removed into the house of any person whatever unless he, Mr Ireland, should be requested to wait on his Majesty with them, which he should certainly - as his duty required, comply with - At the same time Mr Caldecott informed Mr Humphrey, that he believed it was Mr Ireland's intention not to show them to any Commentator or Shakspeare - Monger whatever -

This answer it would be imagined should have satisfied any such person as Mr M. or at least have prevented his application to any other person or through any other channel than that of Mr Ireland himself instead of which Mr Malone in a very unbecoming and ungentlemanlike manner applied to my friend Mr Byng by a letter on ye Wednesday following ye 4th Feb. of which the following (at bottom of p. 7) is a copy.

The gentleman alluded to in this letter is my son - The meanness of conduct in this letter stands in no need of comment.

11 2.

7

Copied from Saml Ireland's Journal.

The Hon. John Byng to Samuel Ireland

Your Son yesterday walked home with me when I touched gently, (further will not do I find) upon the wonder of the discovery - the history of the donor - and upon his strange draw-backs; and all the mystery of his delays.

All that I could draw from him was - that the Gentleman had given him much would give him all -

That he had no thoughts of witholding them from you - That you should direct and guide him.-

That when he brought them some evenings ago - he could not keep them longer - And I think he said - the plays were not now in his possession - In short, I perceive you must be calm with him, coax him - Give him his own way and trust to nature.

My only fear is that he may be seized by some artful man - or men - to his defraud; and to your prejudice - and discontent.

Bindley says I am always coming to you - and "what about I wonder?" And you I answer - are always receiving "S"- and "what does he do with you?". Stevens

Have you read Malone's Prospectus - of his Royal Octavo edition &c.&c. & his hit at the late picture?.- It is in the Morning Chronicle - I must repeat to you - that your conduct to your Son - (in this business) must be slow and temperate, else he may dash forth. divided

Yrs. J.B.

P. Office
14th. January 1795.

Edmund Malone to Hon. John Byng.

Dr. Byng, If you can get your friend (W.H. Ireland) to bring Lord Southampton's letter and the answer to it and the articles between Condelle, Henynge &c. to your house tomorrow at three o'clock, I will produce a fac-similes of Lord Southampton's handwriting which will at once ascertain the matter, but I beg my name may not be mentioned, let it be only a gentleman.

Yours very truly
Edmond Malone.

Wednesday morning (4th. Feb. 1795)

tion of them

6

Or
Mr C
perm
Pape
had
of M
ther
they
ever
his
req
Mr
to s
ever
Th
suc
to a
Mr
bec
Mr
of
T
me
me

The Hon. John Byng to Sam. Ireland 9

S(Stamp) Office — Feb.14th.1795.

Dear Sir,

Yesterday I lost one of my Sleeve Buttons - I hope in your House ?

Will you & your Family favour us - on Friday or Saturday Evening next, with your Company? - I think you highly right to push forth an early Volume, if with Consent of the Principal, who may then Equip you for many more.- Mr.P. was yesterday highly Gratified & Satisfied & will Call his Friend M. who says that "None of the Shakspeare Men have seen them" - Who are these Great Men ? Are not you & I Shakspeare Men ? Are we not as eager - as zealous - & as full of admiration of S.- as these self-chosen Heroes ? - Whose Combs you will cut Completely -

M.H.

Shakespeare

Yrs.J.B. (The Hon.John Byng)

Any further News ?

This letter was copied from Sam. Ireland's Journal

From Samuel Ireland's Journal.

The Hon. John Byng signed the Certificate of Belief in the Shakespeare MSS. drawn out by Dr Samuel Parr dated 25th Feb. 1795.

f.18. 11 2.

James Boswell to the Hon. John Byng

My Dear Byng,

I am perfectly satisfied of the authenticity, and have signed my name in a book at Mr. Ireland's. You must come & see them, and then we shall manage to appoint a day for that same dinner, not on a Sunday, Tuesday or Friday

yours faithfully
James Boswell

20 Febry 1795.

J. Manby to the Hon. John Byng

f.18.

The Boxes named for the Outlands are divided into two classes.

The first containing 20 boxes is to run on the Wednesday. The second containing 19, is to run on the Thursday.

I had thoughts of being there, but have been forced to give up my plan.

Mrs Manby has got another cold; not a bad one, but enough to make her keep at home to-day, perhaps to-morrow.

So far as I can judge the Shakespearean Papers are authentic, notwithstanding the mystery that hangs over the production of them.

Yrs. ever J. Manby (Feb 1795)

(about Mar. 28). 1796

Wm. Powell to Saml Ireland.

Sir

Vortigern is to be rehearsed to Morrow Morning at eleven o'clock —

I am desired to inform you that if any stranger comes with you to the Theatre the Performers will decline repeating their Parts, & the Rehearsal of the Piece will be Dismiss'd

I am Sir

your humble Servt

Powell Prompter.

J. Nixon to Hon. J. Byng.

Mr. Byng & myself agree this prescribed change is no other than Mr. Byng —

Mr. Leland saw Mrs. Siddons on Sunday, she seem'd to him perfectly well, & said, that though

she was afraid she should not be able to play on Saturday, she hoped she should in Hull a few days afterwards. He informed Kemble of this, who refused to put it off a single day, notwithstanding it has been proved that Kemble engaged on Tuesday, & in the agreement — I am in the receipt of Sir Southampton's Letters from Malone's Book, & think they are as much alike each other as they are Mr Ireland's Forgery.

S. Maior.

f. 57.

A note by the Hon. J. Byng at the side of a hand bill headed "Original & Melodious & Important Music in the Shakspeare Mss. having appeared, &c. &c., —

This Hand Bill (Lucas Job) was most timely and judiciously Distributed; and could have been of Service; — if anything could have frustrated the oddness of the Visiting, the incorrection of the Scenes; — and the determined ill-acting of Mr Kemble!!! — —

Sir

Nothing
of [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
the [illegible]

J. ~~T.~~ Nixon
Mr. Boyng
[illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
[illegible]

Richard Cox Dublin delt et sculp

DRAWING ROOM ST. JAMES'S.

broadside. The mizen mast was so wounded, and the rigging so cut to pieces, that I was obliged to lower the gaff after the action, to prevent the mizen going over the side: the foretopmast of the top was entirely shot away. I cannot pretend to enumerate the shot that was received in the hull; most part of the gangways were shot away, the main deck

people, was taken in tow by her, and we anchored in Brest road the day following.

Annexed I forward the number of the killed and wounded, for their Lordships' information.

Officers and seamen killed 9; wounded 18; marines killed 1; wounded 5.

Extract of a letter from Captain Sir Richard

CHAPEL ROYAL, ST. JAMES'S.

was not until every exertion was found to be of no farther avail. The ship, after some of her crew was sent on-board the Carma-

were invited to the drawing-room assembled at seven.

A bow:

gatehouse and turrets, built of red
St. James's Street, and with the Chapel
h adjoins them on the west side, cover
the ancient hospital, which, to judge
any remains of stone mullions, labels,
asonry found in 1838, on taking down
of the Chapel Royal, was of the Norman
e lofty brick gatehouse bears upon its
l of the great clock, dated A.D. 1731,
d with the name of Clay, clockmaker
I. The clock originally had but one
en the gatehouse was repaired, in 1831,
as removed, and was not put up again
of the roof being reported unsafe to
eight. The inhabitants of the neigh-
en memorialised the king (William IV.
acement of the time-keeper, when his
ving ascertained its weight, "shrewdly
w, if the palace roof was not strong
carry the clock, it was safe for the
persons occasionally seen upon it to
cessions, &c." The clock was forth-
d, and a minute-hand was added, with
he original dial was of wainscot, "in a
r of very small pieces, curiously dove-
er."

way of the gatehouse leads into the
or "Colour Court," as it is usually
the colours of the military guard of
g placed there. Here, according to
ctice, a regiment of the sovereign's
s" parade daily at eleven a.m., accom-
eir band, for the purpose of exchang-
nental standard, and handing over the
palace to the incoming commandant.
ew sovereign is formally proclaimed on
accession to the throne. It was on
June, 1837, that Her Majesty Queen
s proclaimed "Queen of the United

sense of the devotion of her people.'
the heralds and pursuivants, dismou
covered, had taken up their accusto
immediately beneath the window
Queen was standing; and silence be
Clarencieux King of Arms, Sir Willi
the absence of Garter King at Arms,
clamation, which had been issued a
Palace on the preceding day. At i
Sir William gave the signal by wavir
and loud and enthusiastic cheering fo
Her Majesty graciously and freque
ledged. A flourish of trumpets was
and the Park and Tower guns fire
token that the ceremony of proclama
accomplished.

On the west side of the great g
Chapel Royal. It is oblong in pla
and has nothing about it to call
mention, excepting, perhaps, the cei
divided into small painted squares,
which was executed by Hans Holbei
Gallery is at the west end, opposite th
table. In this chapel there is a cho
Sundays, at twelve o'clock, which is la
by the aristocracy when in town fo
season. The Duke of Wellington, d
twenty or thirty years of his life, w
attendant. Entrance is to be obta
it must be added, most effectively
silver key.

George III., when in town, used
services in this chapel, a nobleman
sword of state before him, and herald
at-arms, and other officers walking i
sion. So persevering was his Majesty
at prayers, that Madame d'Arblay,
robing-women, tells us "the Queen
dropping off one by one, used to le

broadside. The mizen mast was so wounded, and the rigging so cut to pieces, that I was obliged to lower the gaff after the action, to prevent the masts going over the side; the fore part of the top was entirely shot away. I cannot pretend to enumerate the shot that was received in the hull; most part of the gangways were shot away, the main deck before main mast was torn up from the waterway to the hatchways, the bits were shot away and unshipped, six shot between wind and water on the starboard and three on the larboard side; in short, when the enemy made sail, the ship was perfectly unmanageable, two guns on the main deck and one on the quarter deck were dismounted, almost all the tackles and breechings were carried away; in this situation I was obliged to put before the wind, to prevent the masts going over the side, as it began to freshen from the W. S. W. While we were thus employed, three sail (large frigates) appeared, making all the sail they could, under English colours; it was impossible for me to alter our position, not being able to haul upon a wind, all our after-sail being shot away, and the runners being carried forward, were croised to serve both as stays and shrouds, and the ships had separated to prevent any such manœuvre. Fearing they might be enemies, as I thought they were, I called the remaining Officers together, and asked them, that if they should prove enemies, whether it would answer any purpose engaging in the situation we were in; they were all of opinion, that to engage with such a superiority of force could answer no other end than the destruction of the remaining crew, and that we were cut off from all possibility of an escape; in this situation were we when the headmost passed us at a considerable distance (still under English colours) as if to reconnoitre our disabled state; shortly after she wore, and came under our stern, and gave us a broadside. Perceiving it was his intention to engage us in that manner, seeing us entirely deprived of the means of altering our course, I judged it necessary to bring to, and inform him, as the ship had already engaged, we were incapable of further resistance, and consequently had yielded to their superior force. He desired us to send our boat, I told him it was impossible, as they were all unfit to be put in the water, and, if they were, we were unable to hoist them out; he, in consequence, sent his on-board of us, during which time the dispatches, together with all papers and letters that were on-board, were sunk. Thus, Sir, has fallen into the hands of the enemy, his Majesty's ship Thames, under my command; but I trust a Court-martial will convince their Lordships and the country at large, that, although the misfortune has taken place, it was not until every exertion was found to be of no farther avail. The ship, after some of her crew was sent on-board the Carmagnole, was taken in tow by her, and we anchored in Brest road the day following.

Inclosed I forward the number of the killed and wounded, for their Lordships' information.

Officers and seamen killed 9; wounded 18; marines, killed 1; wounded 5.

Extract of a letter from Captain Sir Richard Strachan, of his Majesty's ship Melampus, to Evan Nepean, Esq. Secretary to the Admiralty, dated Grenville Bay, Jersey, May 11, 1795.

I have the honour to acquaint you, for their Lordships' information, that Sir Sidney Smith, with the ships under his command, joined me on the 8th instant, at noon. About three o'clock in the morning of the 9th, we discovered thirteen sail coming from the northward along the shore. I made the signal to weigh; the squadron weighed and gave chace, the wind being off the land, and the enemy's vessels running along shore to the southward. About six o'clock the Melampus got near enough to fire upon the headmost vessels, but they all, except a cutter, which escaped round Cape Carteret, (our gun-boats not being arrived at the rendezvous) got close in shore, under a small battery, protected by their armed vessels, a brig and lugger. I made the signal for the boats to assemble on-board this ship for the purpose of boarding them, and worked the Melampus in to cover the attack, soon followed by the other ships as they came up, firing upon the enemy's battery and gun-vessels in succession. The enemy then abandoned their vessels, and the boats of the squadron boarded, and got them all off except one small sloop, which was burnt, the tide having left her. About this time the battery ceased to fire. I beg to take this opportunity to acknowledge the assistance I have received from the zeal and activity of the Captains under my direction upon all occasions, and particularly upon the present; and also to observe, that the manner in which the Lieutenants of the different ships boarded and brought off the vessels of the enemy does them infinite honour as officers, the first-lieutenant of the Melampus bearing a conspicuous part; and the boats crews and different ships companies acted with their usual courage. I have the honour to be,

R. J. STRACHAN.

2 killed; 14 wounded.

THE PRINCE'S WEDDING.

Thursday, April 9.

At eight o'clock, this evening, there was a very numerous and brilliant assemblage of nobility and gentry in the public apartments at St. James's, for the purpose of attending the Nuptials of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales. Those who were invited to the drawing-room assembled at seven.

About

About half paſt paſt eight, the neceſſary regulations having been made, and the arrangements formed for the occaſion, the proceſſion began to move, and proceeded with a ſolemn ſplendour to the Chapel Royal, in the following order:

Drums and trumpets,
Kettle-drums,
Serjeant trumpeter,
Who filed off at the door of the chapel.
Sir Clement Cottrell Dormer, Maſter of the Ceremonies.
Her Highneſs's gentleman uſher, between two ſenior heralds.
Right Honourable Charles Greville, his Majeſty's Vice-Chamberlain,
Marquis of Saliſbury, his Majeſty's Lord Chamberlain.
The two Hon. Miſs Stewarts, daughters to the Earl of Galloway, ſtrewed flowers.

THE PRINCESS,
In her nuptial habit; namely,

A royal robe; ſilver tiſſue petticoat, covered with ſilver Venetian net and ſilver taſſels; body and train of ſilver tiſſue, feſtooned on each ſide with large cord and taſſels; ſleeves and tippet fine point lace, and the bands of the ſleeves embroidered with plumes of feathers; a royal mantle of crimſon velvet, ſilver cord and taſſels, trimmed with ermine.

Her Royal Highneſs was led by
THE DUKE OF CLARENCE,
And attended by
The Marchioneſs of Townſhend,
The Countéſs of Jerſey,
The Counteſs of Caernarvon,
The Counteſs of Cholmondeley,
Ladies of her Royal Highneſs's houſehold.
Train ſupported by her Maids of Honour,
Miſs Colman Miſs Erſkine
Miſs Poyntz Miſs Bruhl,
All in Virgin habits.
Theſe were followed by
Lady Mary Osborne Lady Car. Villiers
Lady Char. Spencer Lady Char. Legge
Bride's Maids to her Royal Highneſs,
Dreſſed all alike, viz.

A crape petticoat, embroidered with ſilver ſpangles, and ſtripes of ſilver foil, with fringe and taſſel; white ſatin body and train, trimmed with ſilver fringe, feſtooned with ſilver cord and taſſels; the cap embroidered, ſilver bandeau, and ſpangled crape, trimmed with laurel, and the Prince's plume.

Sir Clement Cottrell Dormer, Maſter of the Ceremonies, with Sir Francis Molyneux, Gentleman Uſher, retired to the places aſſigned them.

Marquis of Saliſbury, Lord Chamberlain, Mr. Charles Greville, Vice-Chamberlain, the two Heralds, with the drums and trumpets, returned for the Bridegroom's proceſſion.

Proceſſion of the Prince.

In the ſame order as that of the Princeſs, with the addition of the officers of his Royal Highneſs's houſehold.

His Royal Highneſs
THE PRINCE OF WALES,
In his Collar of the Order of the Garter, ſupported by
The Bachelor Dukes of Bedford and Roxborough.

The proceſſion then returned as before, to attend his Majeſty, in the following order:

Drums and trumpets as before.
The Knight Marſhal.
Purſuivants.
Heralds.

Two Serjeants at Arms { Dukes of Portland and Leeds. D. of Dorſet, L. S. of the Hd. Provincial Kings of Arms, E. Chatham, Ld. Privy Seal. E. Mansfield, L. P. of the Co. Bp. of London, L. Chancellor. Abp. of Canterbury. } Two Serjeants at Arms.

Gent. Uſher { Sir J. Heard, Garter, Principal K. of Arms, with his Sceptre. } Gent. Uſher.

D. of Norfolk, Earl Marſhal, with his Staff.
PRINCES OF THE BLOOD ROYAL.

V. Chamb. of the Houſehd. { Sword of State. } L. Chamb. of the Houſehd.

HIS MAJESTY,
In the Collar of the Order of the Garter.
Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard.
Colonel of the Life Guards in Waiting.
Viſcount Falmouth, Captain of the Band of Gentlemen Penſioners.
The Lord of the Bedchamber in Waiting.
A Groom of the Bedchamber in Waiting.
William Price, Eſq. V.-Chamb. to the Queen.
L. Harcourt, the Queen's Maſter of the Horſe.

HER MAJESTY,
In the following Dreſs, viz.

A ſilver tiſſue petticoat, with the drapery embroidered with white and gold, ornamented with green and ſilver laurel; a gold tiſſue body and train, trimmed with green and ſilver laurel.

Lord Morton, the Queen's L. Chamberlain.
Their Royal Highneſſes
THE PRINCESSES,
Supported ſeverally by their Gent. Uſhers.
Ladies of her Majeſty's Bed Chamber.
Maids of Honour.
Women of the Bed-Chamber.
The PRINCESS ROYAL wore

A gold and purple embroidery, with gold drapery, and feſtooned with gold and laurel cord and taſſels.

Princeſs AUGUSTA,

A crape embroidered ſilver train and drapery, ſtriped with green foil and ſilver, with wreaths of roſe-colour and ſilver flowers.

Princeſſes ELIZABETH and SOPHIA,

A crape, embroidered with white and gold wreaths of purple foil and flowers.

Upon entering the Chapel, her Royal Highneſs the Princeſs of Wales was conducted by the Ladies of her Bedchamber to a ſeat

a ſeat provided for the occaſion on the right hand, nearly oppoſite the altar, but at the extreme end, attended by the Maids of Honour. The Prince was led by the Bachelor Dukes to a ſimilar ſeat in a line with her Royal Highneſs, on the left ſide of the Chapel; next to whom ſat the Queen, her Lord Chamberlain, Vice Chamberlain, and Maſter of the Horſe, ſtanding behind her. The King was ſeated on the right hand of the Princeſs, attended by the Lord of the Bedchamber, who ſtood behind his Majeſty; and the Lord who bore the Sword of State, and the Lord Chamberlain on the right and left of him. The latter having the Vice Chancellor near him. The Princeſſes were ſeated with the Princes of the Blood, cloſe by their Majeſties.

The perſons in the proceſſion occupied the ſeveral places appointed for them, all of whom were ſtanding.

THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY

Was performed by the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, aſſiſted by the Biſhop of London; during the ſolemnization of which, the Princeſs was attended by her Bride's Maids; and the Prince by the Bachelor Dukes. At the concluſion of the ceremony, the Royal Pair returned to their reſpective ſeats, and their Majeſties aſcended an elegant Throne erected for the occaſion on the right hand of the altar; when an anthem was performed; the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, and Biſhop of London, ſtanding during this time, the former on the right, the latter on the left ſide of the Altar.

THE RETURN OF THE PROCESSION

Commenced as ſoon as the anthem was finiſhed, in the following order:

Drums and trumpets, as before.
Maſter of the Ceremonies.
The Princeſs's Gentleman Uſher between two Heralds.
His Royal Highneſs the Prince of Wales leading the Princeſs, and attended by The Dukes of Portland and Leeds.
His Majeſty, preceded and attended by the great officers, in the manner in which he went to the Chapel.
Her Majeſty and the Princeſſes followed in the order as before.

The proceſſion then filed off at the door of the apartments whence it ſet out, and the Drawing-room immediately commenced, which was numerouſly and brilliantly attended. Their Majeſties and their Royal Highneſſes received the congratulations and compliments of the nobility, &c.

When the Drawing-room cloſed, the Royal Family, with the Bride and Bridegroom, and the ſeveral Lords and Ladies in attendance, went to Buckingham-houſe to ſupper, where a ſplendid entertainment was provided; and about twelve o'clock the Prince and Princeſs retired to Carlton-houſe, where their Royal Highneſſes ſlept.

They were viſited the next morning by the King and Queen, previous to their ſetting out for Windſor, whither they were followed by their Royal Highneſſes.

The Stadtholder and his family were in the King's cloſet, during the celebration of the nuptials, and afterwards ſupped with the Royal Family.

The Chapel was moſt ſuperbly fitted up—it was papered in a ſtyle to imitate crimſon velvet.

The Royal Family, particularly her Majeſty, appeared highly delighted at the union of the Prince to ſuch a diſtinguiſhed ornament of her ſex, for beauty, grace, and mental endowments;—one, in ſhort, combining every requiſite to render her worthy of being the Bride of the Heir Apparent of the Crown of Great Britain.

The celebration of the marriage ceremony was announced to the public in the evening by the firing of the guns in the Park and at the Tower; the latter all round the line.

The ſervants of his Royal Highneſs all wore new liveries, at once neat and grand in appearance, with feathers in their hats.

The illuminations were general in every quarter, and of the moſt magnificent kind we have beheld ſince the memorable epoch of his Majeſty's proceſſion to St. Paul's; and what adds to the compliment is, that they were every where voluntary, and not enforced, as on ſome occaſions, by the hard and ſevere mandates of the mob, who this night preſerved a decency and decorum worthy of the character of Engliſhmen, and well ſuited to the happy occaſion. The theatres, ſubſcription-houſes, public offices, &c. &c. were beyond deſcription ſuperb.

An abundance of fireworks were diſplayed throughout the metropolis on the occaſion; and we are happy to add, that, notwithſtanding the tens of thouſands of people who paraded the ſtreets to a late hour, not the ſmalleſt accident took place.

There were ſome new carriages exhibited; and the dreſſes at Court were extremely elegant.

THE CITY ADDRESSES.

To the KING's Moſt Excellent MAJESTY.

The humble Addreſs of the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council aſſembled.

Moſt Gracious Sovereign,

WE, your Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council aſſembled, requeſt permiſſion to approach the throne with our warmeſt congratulations on the auſpicious nuptials of his Royal Highneſs the Prince of Wales, with her Serene Highneſs the Princeſs of Brunſwick.

We cannot but feel the moſt lively ſentiments of affection for a Princeſs, bleſſed with

12

with every endowment to adorn her exalted ſtation; and form the happieſt preſage, that the endearing qualities of her mind will be matured by the benign influence of our moſt gracious Queen, whoſe eminent example will be acknowledged and admired, as long as Virtue can charm, or tranſcendent worth command imitation and reſpect.

Your Majeſty's faithful Citizens of London confeſs, with the moſt grateful emotions, the uniform and ſteady regard which your Majeſty has evinced for the future intereſt of your people, by this happy alliance of the illuſtrious Houſe of Brunſwick, devoted to the Proteſtant cauſe, and anxious for the maintenance of thoſe its ſacred pillars—ſocial order and rational freedom.

At the ſame time that we look forward with ſolicitude and delight to the deareſt intereſts of our poſterity, we cannot be unmindful of our own immediate joy, upon this feſtive occaſion, becauſe we have happily reſtored to us the fair repreſentative of a Princeſs nearly related to your Majeſty, and thereby inheriting a claim to that national regard and eſteem, which manifeſted itſelf in regret at the departure of her amiable mother from theſe kingdoms.

Permit us, Sire, earneſtly to hope that your Majeſty, under whoſe mild and gracious government we have enjoyed the privileges of our fathers inviolate and ſecure, may have the felicity to ſee their Royal Highneſſes experience every bleſſing conſequent upon this moſt propitious event, and that your Majeſty will believe the warm aſſurances of the Citizens of London, uniformly and zealouſly to ſupport your Majeſty's perſon, crown, and family, againſt all your enemies.

To the QUEEN's Moſt Excellent MAJESTY.

The humble Addreſs of the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the City of London, in Common Council aſſembled.

May it pleaſe your Majeſty,

WE, his Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Lord-Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons, of the City of London, in Common Council aſſembled, beg leave to congratulate your Majeſty on the recent nuptials of his Royal Highneſs the Prince of Wales with her Serene Highneſs the Princeſs of Brunſwick.

We felicitate ourſelves ſincerely on an alliance which muſt form ſo intimate a part of your Majeſty's happineſs, more eſpecially becauſe your Majeſty's virtues will, we truſt, be perpetuated to ages yet unborn, in the perſon of an illuſtrious Princeſs, whoſe native goodneſs cannot but admire them, and whoſe exalted ſtation can find no model ſo perfect for emulation.

The loyal citizens of London, Madam, therefore feel it their intereſt, as it is their gratification, to indulge themſelves in the ſanguine hope that her Royal Highneſs's moſt amiable endowments may long contribute to your Majeſty's [illegible], and that the endearing qualities of her mind may long have the [illegible] of contemplating your Majeſty's example.

So fine a [illegible], long accuſtomed to behold its higheſt graces moſt conſpicuous on the throne, enjoy the hope of this ſolid advantage in reverſion for poſterity, that an equal pattern of Royal goodneſs is reſerved for them to admire, and that they will regard with gratitude this very happy event.

*** *The Anſwers, with the complimentary Addreſſes to the Prince and Princeſs, next month.*

COUNTRY NEWS.

May 9. The Biſhop of London held a Confirmation at *Enfield* Church, for the inhabitants of that and the nine following parriſhes—Tottenham, Edmonton, Southgate, Hadley, E. Barnet, Cheſhunt, Broxborne, Hodſon and Wormley; which four laſt were now firſt added to the Diſtrict, having before attended at Biſhop's Stortford. The whole ſervice was about three quarters of an hour, and concluded in an excellent Charge of about ten minutes, delivered by his lordſhip extempore: 375 perſons were confirmed.

May 10. The *Biggleſwade* ſtage-waggon, by the careleſſneſs of a boy, the driver being aſleep in it, paſſing over the bridge at Enfield Waſh, which had not been made paſſable for carriages ſince the thaw and floods, and the rails lately ſtolen away, the two forehorſes fell down through the breach, and were killed on the ſpot; a third was hurt, and the waggon on the point of following them into the water.

May 13. Between ſix and ſeven in the evening a fire broke out in the malting-houſe of farmer Young, at Horrels, or Hollywell, in the parriſh of *Hatfield*, near Eſingdon, in Hertfordſhire, occaſioned by overheating the kiln to dry the malt in, which communicated itſelf to the hood or row of the malthouſe lately [illegible], and preſently ſet the whole in a flame. In ſo extenſive a range of buildings and ricks, the moſt fatal conſequences were to be apprehended; but by the ready help afforded, and the double-piped engine from Hatfield-houſe, the conflagration was prevented from ſpreading.—About the ſame time, the following night, a fire broke out on the premiſes of Mr. Carrol, farmer, at Turner's-hill, *Cheſhunt*, in the ſame county, which deſtroyed not only the barns and ricks on the premiſes where it began, but others adjoining, and put the whole neighbourhood in imminent danger.—A correſpondent, who has been on both ſpots ſince the cataſtrophe, authorizes us to declare, that whatever were the cauſe of the latter, the former was occaſioned exactly as above ſtated. Suſpicion of monopoly of any of the neceſſaries of life is too frequently productive of the worſt of conſequences to ſociety, by deſtroying the

property

Extract from Samuel Ireland's Journal in the B... V.1.

April 11th.1795. Mr.Byng called on me and mentioned that being at St.James last Wednesday evening ye 8th.inst. at ye marriage of ye Prince of Wales - he there saw Lord Harcourt - and in some conversation taking place about ye Shakespeare papers, Mr.B., asked if the King had heard of them, to which Lord Harcourt answered in the affirmative - and said he believed in no very favourable light, having understood that they were not genuine.

In consequence of which Mr.Byng wrote a letter to Lord Harcourt and on the following day received an answer.

f. 19.

Lord Harcourt to Hon John Byng

Sir

I did in the course of a conversation I had the honour of holding with H. M. mention what you had told me respecting Shakspeare, but whether it is the King's intention to make any inquiries upon that subject, it is impossible for me to say; and, indeed, considering how much his attention is necessarily engaged at this time on important affairs I am apt to think that He will scarcely find leisure to attend to the discovery you did me the honour of naming to me.

I have the honour to be
Sir
your faithful
humble Servant
Harcourt

April, 1795.

Copied from Saml. Ireland's Journal.

Aug.7th.1795 Hon.J.Byng to Sam.Ireland

Mr.Frankland or Franklin lives in Bentinck Street - Did drive a Curriole - with Roan Horses - Now drives black Horses.

Does not wear Hair Powder. His Liveries are blue & orange,

Is this the Gentleman ?

Yrs.J.B.

Dec.Ist.1795. Hon.J.Byng to Sam.Ireland

Looking last night into Mr.Malone's Shakspeare, I was Struck at Reading "That New Place was sold by H.Talbot Esq.(Son in law,& Executor of Sir H.Clopton) in or soon after the year 1752." [illegible] Talbot [illegible] The only person [illegible]

I am most anxious to learn about my negociation of Saturday last - as a Counteract against Conspiracy, & Correspondence - What more offers ? for Warm as I am, I pine under Delay - & Cannot Endure such unaccountable Procrastination.

Malone's From M's Shakspere "His Son Will'm Heminge - into whose hands his papers must have fallen,&c.& where t those books of Account of which his father speaks,now are,cannot be ascertained.- - -

Yrs.J.B.

of Anti-
seen the
he names
- who may

this day
ound with

read to
up R - Rilson
st 4to
tive or
ubject -
something
s so
ed this

from Mrs.
.Comes

Dec.8th.1795. Hon.J.Byng to Sam.Ireland

As I have heard it hinted that no Men,Judges of Antiquity & of old writing,Stile,Paper etc.have seen the Shakspeare Papers. Will you favour me with the names of five or six Gentlemen of this description - who may be supposed Scientific & have approved.

Yrs.J.B.

Shall you be at home at two o'clock.

Dec.15th.1795.Hon.J.Byng to Sam.Ireland.

I enclose the Smock Alley Wit.

Harris → H.will be at the Theatre C.G.(Covent Garden) this day till 4 o'oclock,would you wish me to break ground with him ? -

Ask the young Emperor when he will shew,& read to me The Devil & Richard,& why he will not knock up R - Ritson by producing - (for even half an hour) the first 4to of Hamlet - Surely this Gentleman is very inactive or very cold. I hold many warm debates upon the subject - & everyone laments - or decides - the want of something Capital to be produced viz:- any of those things so much talked of, & then they add "Why have averred this & asserted that ?"

Say to your Dr.Jane that I have no Letter from Mrs. Byng → B - So can say nothing about the Play, If Mrs.B.Comes in time She shall send to Miss I.directly. Ireland

Yrs.J.B.

Copied from Samuel Ireland's Journal

£20.

21.

Letter from Saml Ireland to the Hon^r J Boyle Jany 12 1796

I have asked more than once if you had not called in the course of y^e morn^g: & am sorry to find that illness has prevented — as to y^e business of y^e morn^g it passed nearly as I expected — I read y^e play wth a bad throat &c &c. & the parts those characters I had cast seemed all to be well satisfied — Siddons Mrs S. = o was & had been ill, & could not sing — therefore some one else must sing = Britons, Saxons, Lords, & attendants all accommodated themselves to the occasion with fine good order — I look wth me two friends — who were well & civilly received — I will if possible call on you to-morrow — but I hope (sic) & trust you will be ~~will be~~ well enough to be at y^e Off: my best compts to Mrs B. & believe me yours

S. Ireland

mond^y Ev^g

Mr. Bensley plays Constantius —

— King — the Fool.

22 From Samuel Ireland's Journal.

The Hon. John Byng signed the Certificate of comparison between the Shakespeare MSS and the Shakesperian Deeds recently discovered by Mr Albany Wallis - date March 1796.

January 21st.1796. Hon.J.Byng to Sam.Ireland. 23

Hillingdon

I called upon Dr.H. in 2 a J.6 - but all in vain - He knows nothing about the matter. If you my Dr. Sir think of Names & of an Advertisement, your Son surely should be more Explicit or Communicative, else many, if not most people - will fly off from this,- I shall be in town on Sunday & with you on Tuesday - & eager to Read W -'s Pamphlet. If M. (Malone) should have had any Information - Endeavour to trace it.

At all Events remove King from the Part of the Fool, Change Aikin for Bensley, & if possible get somebody (suppose Erskine or Hardinge) to prevail upon Mrs.S. (Siddons) to sing the ditty.

Yrs J.B.

This letter was copied from Sam.l Ireland's Journal.

22

Copied from Sam. Ireland's Journal.

March 29th.1796 Hon.J.Byng to Sam.Ireland

Dear Sir,

I suppose that you may wish a Staunch Friend to accompany you to a Rehearsal -

Mr.Nixon is one - He has met your Son at my House- You might do well to take him with you - as certainly you will not Venture alone (amongst the Philistines)

He Bears this from me, Give him what answer you Please, & put him off - if you are arranged.

I leave London this morning,& I am glad of this opportunity - of again Inforcing to you the necessity of your waiting upon Mr.S. (Sheridan.G.H.L.) to discover whether Mrs.S. (Siddons G.H.L.) really flies from her Character in V. (Vortigern.G.H.L.) as much may be learned from that,& it may go far to drive into the Conspiracy.

All good Success attend you, & you must believe that my Heart goes with the MSS. - Even were you not a persecuted Man.

Would you write me a Line (if you are calm enough) to Sun Inn Biggleswade. You will oblige

Yrs.J.B.

Meet M's Book boldly

I expect it on Friday

2

Copied from Sam^t Ireland's Journal.

April 1st.1796 Hon.J.Byng to Sam.Ireland

Dear Sir,

I cannot Refrain from troubling you with these few Lines (though on y'r busy day) to Report my Opinion of the Book which I have Read,nearly half through.(in my Country Sojourn) & Hesitate not to say- that I think it is a Weak - futile captious illiberal Performance - written by the Pen of an inferior Special Pleader -

Malone's "Enquiry"

I hope to see him soon done up,& to hear that you Triumph to-morrow.

Yrs.sincerely J.B.

I shall Return to Duty on Thursday next - & will then write to you.

Sun Inn Biggleswade Beds.

If you could give me one line on Monday I shall feel obliged.

f. 67. Saml Ireland to Hon. John Byng. 45. 29.

(4th April 1796)

Dr Sir

You have no doubt heard, the lamentable fate of Vortigern – It went smoothly on till ye fourth act, when by ye death of Hengist & play'd by Phillimore, the laugh began, for that was the mode of attack – it was evidently a plan'd business, and after that every Speech good or bad, was necessarily an object of laughter by ye foes – That excellent speech of Vortigern of ye setting fingers to was scoured at in derision – after this I can only say that myself & friends – seem all to have lost their wits – or such an account of the play in all ye papers could never have been given they are all full of reflections, even to personalities towards me. We are all at this instant in ye utmost distress – I feel more for the females than myself – There is a print of Saturday – burlesquing me & my family in searching ye pest to to. – There was the greatest house on Saturday ever known – more friends than foes – the play was not given out

Hollow sot Hengist was played by Phillimore

Barrymore went on for that purpose - but said nothing - but standing sometime on ye stage amidst ye plaudits & laughs - Kemble, tho' I stood near him behind ye Curtain - went on & without consult^g me gave out ye play for Mond^y The School for scandal - so that ye Intriguers not being prime out did not be forth a decided opinion - tho' ye voices on either side - but my friends many of them have believed - were too strong in my favor.

Kembic K: never played so ill, & evidently with an intent to damn the play - I have many, many things to tell you when we meet, that I cannot say now - I sent to Mrs B - & orders for Gal^y on Sat^y at 3 - I did not see Mrs B. at ye play but believe she was there - There were many more friends than I imagine could have been got together on the occasion - I put forth a hand bill similar to my advertisement a few days ago, wch was held at ye house to ye people on going in -

Time will not permit my saying anything further - Believe me Dear for very

Sincerely but unbelieving (for a moment)
hlf.

C. Ireland.

Monday Noon

Norfolk Apt.

addressed -
Ston. Mr. Byng
Sun Inn
Biggleswade
Bedfordshire.

Apt 4.

June 1785.

On the 16th inſtant, a moſt dreadful fire broke out at noon-day, in Biggleſwade, Bedfordſhire, by which near one half of the town was reduced to aſhes, and 120 dwelling-houſes, beſides warehouſes, barns, granaries, ſtables, &c. conſumed. More than 400 men, women, and children, were totally deprived of ſuſtenance, and muſt have periſhed, but for the charitable relief of thoſe who eſcaped, and the liberal contributions of the neighbourhood.

Copied from Saml Ireland's Journal.

5th. April 1796 Biggleswade

The Hon. J. Byng to Sam. Ireland.

Dear Sir,

I heartily Condole with you on the Fate of V. – Laughter is the best Engine of Damnation, & was Intended, but some of the Laughter attaches to Mr. S – as for the other – He schemed & wished the overthrow–

Vortigern

Sheridan

Kemble

My Respects to the Ladies, Tell them to Keep up g good Hearts, for a bright Day will come yet – As for your Son – I know not how to mention him – as he seems (from his mysterious Vanity) Resolved to Plunge you into Trouble. On Thursday at 2 o'Clock – I propose to hold Council with you, & to Hear how you Propose bringing up your Lee-way. M's Conduct, all must Dissaprove – as most Malevolent – mean – & Mischevious – Is he not in the way of the Law ?

Malone's

Yours sincerely

J.B.

The Evening Mail of last night speaks strongly against M –.

Malone

April 12th.1796. Hon.J.Byng to Sam.Ireland.

Will you receive the advice of a Friend to your Family & to the Shakspeare MSS.? You know how Strenous I have been from the first,& now upon speaking to those who did wish well - & now Retire from Belief - I find but one opinion Prevalent "That unless the Gentleman be known - All is Undone"

He must come forth generally,or, at least Commit his Name - & the true History - to some particular Gentleman. Urge him to this,or Speak, yourself,If you can.- Nothing else can Revive the MSS.- & Confound your Accusers.

Y'rs.J.B.

This letter was copied from Sam'l Ireland's Journal

f. 61. Wm. Baillie to Hon. John Byng.

Little Cobham Apl 15th 1795.

Dear Sir

I have an Engagement tomorrow morning but shall endeavour to shorten the business that I may have the Pleasure of meeting you in Norfolk Street according to your Desire - to bring Counsel or advice to bear

Mr. Ireland (even if I was well qualified) I should rather resolate, for you know well how largely I sacrificed both in Income & other Matters for the sake of retirement & withdrawing myself in a manner from the busy world, and after such a Step at my years of 70 it wd be rather inconsistent to rush as a Volunteer into a Contest which by ye candle or Commencement seems likely to be so fiercely controverted as if it were political, & of course every thing relative to the Business will be pried into, scrutinized, misconstrued & dragg'd before the Public either in Gazetteers or Pamphlets, and as I have the utmost abhorrence of being introduced in any way, I must beg to be excused from such an Interference. I have read none of the Publications against Mr. Ireland or the Shakespeare Papers but I have heard mch of ye substance & ye arguments used in them & cannot think he has had fair or candid Treatment & should be glad to be able to serve him so that it did not disturb my Plan of

From Samuel Ireland's Journal.

The Hon. John Byng attended the 1st and 2nd meetings of the Shakspearian Committee who met at Samr Ireland's house on April 14th and 23rd 1796. respectively.

With respect to choosing a Confidante or Confidantes to whom the supposed M.H. should divulge the secret of the Shakespeare MSS. and his own identity. G.H.L May 1796.

Many other applications having been made to several gentlemen, viz:- The Duke of Leeds, Earl of Leicester, Mr Faulkner &c. &c. and to no effect, Mr Chalmers was applied to by Mr Byng, Mr Faulkner and Mr Cayley, when he with some reluctance accepted ye charge of receiving ye secret conjointly with Mr Byng - it was determined they should be the two persons to receive the secret - but in a few days, understanding that Mr Byng was objected to by the Gentleman, as my Son said, because he was on ye Committee and besides a sworn friend to the papers and to myself - it was then determined to apply to Mr Walls.

Quiet & Retirement

I am most sincerely your obedt
humble servt
Wm Baillie

f.b.y.

Wm. Baillie to Hon. John Byng.

Dear Sir

I was notified at being from home at the time you kindly called on me, I had many additional Pictures to shew You & except that an original or two most strongly representing beautiful Nature — this at another Call I hope.

I shall cheerfully obey your second Summons & think it would a credit to every one of ye meeting to endeavour to secure to poor oppressed Man from ye malevolent attack so groundlessly made on him — for my part I w^d as soon believe that the Orleans Eldorado were all Copies, or that the Bank Notes and last Week are all forgeries as to be convinced by their Arguments approved — I honour every

much Mr. Hastings as he has been an Instance beyond all to ~~[illegible]~~ be found in History of ye Force & perversion of Party violence exhibited by superior abilities his Feelings are roused ~~[illegible]~~ & he resents the assault coldly. I think Ireland will finally triumph tho' a sprinkling of ye Nobility Clergy & Literati wd shorten ye Business - Bindley's Defection was a Loss being acknowledged a Man of taste & a Scholar - Could you prevail on Mr. Ireland to have the two John Hemings papers compared I mean the one procured so aptly & shortly & that in Custody of Mr. Wallace - What an irrefragable Argmt this is - And if Ireland attack'd Malone at Law for maliciously endeavouring to depreciate his Property (for these Shakespeare papers are surely property) what a Speech Erskine would make with such Materials - I wish success to ye Committee & a short Date to Doubt & malice - with much Esteem

I am most sincerely yours

Will. Baillie.

21st Apl 1796.

(address portion torn away).

Copied from Samt. Ireland's Journal. 45

Hon. John Byng to Samuel Ireland

Monday 25th. April (1796)

Dear Sir,

When I parted from you yesterday I felt a very different opinion from the majority of the meeting. For altho' it may be wished that two persons of high rank, men of Literature should visit the Gentleman, (and vouch accordingly) yet I must think to all such applications, you will either receive no answer or else a decided negative -

Most of these High gentlemen have either been indifferent to, or professed Scoffers of the MSS. Whatever then more is to be done - to the advantage of the MSS.- can only be done by your old Friends - and by two of them - at last- will the Gentleman be seen -

The Repitition of your Meetings will draw together - Spies - Enemies - and others from curiosity - It certainly might do good - if two Dukes - or two Statesmen, would take the matter in hand: but they will not.

Being obliged to leave Town, tomorrow for some few days . - I wrote this - and to excuse myself from Tuesday's attendance - of which pray write to me an account - to -

Sun Inn Biggleswade. Beds.

You know and believe my Constancy - But listen not to the New Comers. Were I thought worthy of being one of the Embassy (When the Nobility and Literati shall have declined) I would return to Town upon the Spur.-

Your Son whom I dined with yesterday again told me - that I should recognise the Gentleman - at the first sight .. -

Wishing you success, I am

Yours J.B.

Copied from Sam. Ireland's Journal. 47

April 26th.1796. Hon.J.Byng to Sam.Ireland.

Dear Sir,

I do assure you, that though absent, The Shakspeare MSS. for ever Run in my head - Here my Short Space of Holidays is filled up - by Walking & Riding & to an early bed, & yet I cannot help reverting to our past Meetings, & especially to the Cast, which appeared to me to be Managed by the Enemy.

You, like Glendour, may Call Spirits from the fiery Deep - but will they Come ? So I think about the grand List of Chosen Men - to be Selected - All good Men - but are they true ?

I quit this place on Sunday, So prey Indulge my Impatience with a Line - by Saturday's Post at furthest - & Report your Progress, Not that I think Good can Come - from our last Project. Good can only arise from your own - few friends. Throw amongst them new Hounds, & you Spoil your Pack.

Make your letter as ample as you think Proper - & I will answer it by Sunday's Post.

I never can make out-why you have not all the Things promised, or why there has been all this Dribbling - all this Mysterious Delay - to destroy (more than Enemies could) an honest, wonderful Discovery - for such I must think it - & beyond all the Invention of Modern Workmanship -

If all the Gt.People apply'd to - Should Refuse 49
the Trust, Where think you of the next Movement ?
Wednesday April 27th. - I had written thus far yesterday, but have now to thank you for your Letter of yesterday - & to Speak myself in much greater hopes from your last decision - by Limiting the application to four Noblemen, Some of whom I hope will undertake the Business,but indeed I fear they will not.
I Repeat & Repeat - Pray write to me the instant you receive an answer.

I shall hope to be able to attend your next Committee - Do'nt say I would not attend the Last - as you know I am not likely to yield.

What could you expect from Mrs.J's Juliet ? - Mrs. Siddons alone can play Juliet - & I have seen it. Mrs.J may jump about in Romps - & such like - but knows nothing of Juliet,Rosalind - & Imogen. It is not youth but Skill, For Garrick played young Hamlet divinely at 60 years of age.

With Comp'ts to your Home

Believe me to be Yrs. J.B. rather William Wimble for here I think of nothing but Riding & Fishing etc
SUN INN BIGGLESWADE BEDS.

We have had a respectable meeting this day — at which I really am concerned you did not attend — The decision is that Mr. Franklyn, Mr. Moore & Mr. Foley apply immediately to the D. of Dorset, the Earl of Harcourt, E. of Radnor & E. of Leicester to ask them if they will take on themselves the Secret of being ye Gent^n — having informed them of every Circumstance that concerns the Drama, when the manner is settled — I am to know if any Committee again is to be assembled.

Another Problem Subject I should but slightly

Plaged it as she does every thing else with great Ease — but not with energy that in fact is required — a few years younger I have no doubt is the ye performance perhaps have given that energy that I complain for want of — I hope you will very soon mind the Glimpses of our Moon — and add to the light so much wanted in our perfect state of Darkness —

I am with true respect
Y^rs very truly
S. Ireland

Oct. 26. 1811

f. 52. Saml Ireland to Hon. John Byng 53

Dear Sir

I thank you for y^r attention & — sorry to say we are not a jot nearer the point than when we parted — I saw Dr Franklin yesterday — he had seen D. Leeds who appeared afraid to mention ye business — L. of Leicester he had likewise seen — who not giving an answer till he had given it a full consideration — The D. of Norfolk & Ld Sarwick will be in Town next week — no one else I think has been applied to — For my part I think ye first idea was the best & chuse two persons from ye Committee of Ord I sincerely wish you & be one & hope it will so end — You may suppose it is a wretched state of suspence that I am not in — being so near a distance & not to be able to accomplish it. I dread fancying any thing will not be done till you come to Town wh you say will be Sunday next — Should any thing occur I will write to you at Medford, tho do not expect any thing material till — I shd have been glad to have been with you — &c

Tom has no great claim from me in the present moment — believe me

Yrs very truly
S. Ireland

Sept 27 (1796)
Norfolk St

5.

Frx. Saml Ireland to Hon. John Byng

Dr Sir

I have heard nothing Decisive or I sh^d have sent to you — All I learn is that ye Gent^n is displeased that all ye persons in ye list sent to him by ye Committee were not applied to — before any other Names were mention'd — and that he says he all along expressed his objections to any Gent^n that were Ref^d: it will be the ye event I know not — shall be happy to see you tomorrow — The Play is gone to Stowe

Yrs very truly
S. I.

May 5 [1796]

Wm. Thos. Lewis (Actor) to Hon. John Byng

Dear Sir

I have just received an answer from Mr. Harris to the letter I sent him to Newbury. He will be in Town on Saturday and wait on you to thank you for your very friendly interference, as also in expectation of having the tragedy to read - which he is the readier to hope from a conversation on the subject with Mr. Albany Wallis from whom he heard it to be the intention of Mr. Jordan and who you what has past between you and

Dear Sir

Your very Obedient Servant
Wm. Thos. Lewis.

Thursday
May 5th
1796

Note by the Hon. J. Byng.

~~[illegible]~~ this letter relates to the Play of Henry 2d - If this play had been introduced to the public, instead of Hengist, it would, probably - have found a different Reception.

Copied from Saml Ireland's Journal

Hon. John Byng to Saml Ireland

Sunday 15th. May 1796. Sun - Biggleswade

"Thus far intd the Bowels of the Land "

This Reminds me of Enquiring after Mrs. Powel -

I am vexed that you are not with me ; & yet I pressed you timorously - as not knowing how you would like my Country Pursuits - my Hours etc. etc. -

On another day We will go together, & yet I hope to see you here - now before three Days be elapsed, & to Bring opening Tidings: But if you Come not, Write fully - of the goings on. -

On Friday - when I saw you - you were very Mysterious Surely your Son cannot long Continue in his dark lurking Place - But must come to an Explanation (an ample one with you) with the Public - Tell me what you Can: What you May: But above all Things urge to your Son my wish of Seeing the Gentleman. Why should I not Go with Mr. W. (~~probably~~ (Albany Wallis G.H.L.) If a Gentleman - I can give him honest advice -

Your Son is not - cannot be at the Bottom of this Business ? He is a wild - a well chosen agent - If he goes on upon his present Plan, & Vain Thoughts - He will Undo your hopes - Undo Shakspeare - & undo himself -

I was vexed you would not go with me but I do not Fancy you a Country Gentleman & a will - wimble like myself - Besides you do not like the Dinner at past

one o/c - & the making two days - I am abroad at 7 oclock in the morning & abroad at 8 o/c in the evening - & as soon as dark go to Supper - 61

I am Surrounded by Dogs & Fishing Tackle.

Yrs.with my best wishes

J.B. (The Hon.John Byng)

Your Son is now-Consulting his own Interest - not yours - & waiting for coming of age. So you will get no more Papers. -

To Samuel Ireland Esq.

f. 19

Upon a card with corner (upon which had been writing) torn away.

Pray write underneath.
A Book relative to the life of Queen Eliz^th with his notes.

Copied from Samuel Ireland's Journal.

June 11th (1796) By appointment I called with my daughter Jane at Mr. Byng's when I had a long conversation with him and Mrs. Byng on the subject of Sam's abilities both as to Poetry and his powers of imitation in writing - and Mr. B. showed me specimens of his talents and seemed fully to be of opinion that he was capable of writing all the papers in my possession, to which I expressed my total disbelief - he then gave me ye specimens that follow, which he says he saw him write.

(These consisted of "Imitation of the Ballad of Chevy Chase" June 11th 1796 in the Elizabethan hand. Part of an Indenture in engrossing hand, fac-similes of Signatures of Shakespeare, Hemmiges, Elizabeth & Southampton, Lines on "Solitude and Reflection (see p 65) Lines on Avarice (see p. 87.) and Acrostic on Chatterton. G.H.L.)

As I nowe Finde my hour of eyetnesse faste
comynge one, I do Orderre thatt thys, att my
deathe, thys lyttel booke of prayerr be Given
to mye Wife, and att her deth, thatt she
Leave itt to mi daughter, that soe itt may
Keep inne our howse, and ass yt hath Com-
fortedd mee inn mi last howres, so Graunt
yt may you alsoe.

O Lord Godd, iff ani mann hath Dearred
mee ill, I do herebye Forgive itt himm. Iff
ani sinnes o myne Call forr thy juste
Judgment, I must onli hope as thou arte
Juste, and goode, I weake, and frayl, that
thou wilt Pittie, and Forgive me.

O Lorde, iff thou wouldst Trye me more,
Graunt thatt mi paynes may bee doubledd,
for thenn I will Beare without murmur,
thy juste Vennegeance, Reade ove this mi
booke of Comfort, thy sonn Jesus Christe
his sufferyngs, Thenn Smyle, and be Content
The Belle that sonne will Tolle me is Earth
hath just Beat two. O Lord, these howres are
sadd, Farewell thys Worlde. O I Grove yet

Copied from Samuel Ireland's Journal

I came to London on ye Thursday (9th June 1796) about 2 - soon after which Mr Byng called upon me and wished me to see Mr Wallis, which I attempted to do, but found him ill in bed and not to be spoken with -

Jane Ireland writing to Samuel Ireland June 7th 1796.
Mr Byng called this morning but he had not anything new to communicate, only is equally anxious with ourselves that something was settled.

June 14th 1796. From the time of my coming to Town till ye present, I heard from all quarters that my Son had avowed himself ye Author of all the Papers, and had told Mr Byng the manner in which it was ~~all~~ done. Of this I must have yet stronger proof as I am not convinced by what I have heard.

This day Mrs. Byng dined with us and said she presumed I should have a letter from my Son - which I received half an hour after she went.

(In W.H.I's letter referred to above he confesses to the fabrication, and says "You I believe are also convinced by what Mr Byng produced when you were at his house". G.H.L.)

against Mercie one mi Soule. – Amen.

Stratforde on Avon – 1616 – 3ro ith Morninge.
Wm Shakspeare.

Note by Hon. John Byng

W. H. J. – Shewed to me an Old Primer (supposed to be S's) with this curious, impossible, Prayer, Written by Mr. S. in his last. ~~ha~~ hours!!!

To this strange Prayer, We Started as — Ifs and Ands, as almost to Overcast the moment! — The Primer was laid aside; and never — Pursued.

Note by Hon. John Byng

June 12th 1796. Mr. B. – Calling upon Mr. H. — Produced some Lines; (the Theme, Solitude, — Reflection;) the Walking about the Room, — & Which Drew the following Lines.

Holy Thou: Solitude Brings on Reflection,
which soon does Ripen in the brain of man.

I have seen Intro'd in the School of [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] Seems fair;
Then Withers; – and Farewell all its Beauties. –
This known, I then did Argue with myself,
The more I Thought upon my follies Past,
More I did Blush that I did wear a mind,
And knowingly should make sinning with it. –
Now Mark Nothing: [illegible]
[illegible] from my breast
Yet, gently, she did Listen to my Prayer,
And with the mind of sweetest charity,
Kiss'd, and Forgave me. I Thank'd her kindness,
And since that time have Known myself a Man;
Have Felt the Praises due unto my God,
Which may be Learn'd e'en from his smallest work:
For not I Know but Speaks his mighty Power,
Stamping him at once – Wise Omnipotent.

f. 33. Note by the Hon. John Byng 9/69

This Acrostick was Written (in S.ro hand) in an Old Edition of Spenser's Poems: [illegible] of which was Fill'd by Notes --; (in the same hand!!)

[illegible]

S.ee from yon hill a glitt'ring dew [illegible]
[illegible]

E.ach Poet, now, no more his head shall Rear,
N.or Join the laurel to his little name:
C.haucer, in humble notes, their praise could Tell
E.xtoll how Princes Rose; how Princes Fell
R.ich Spencer's Muse can Paint or Heav'n, or Hell.

Note by Hon. John Byng

The best-Written, well imagined Marginal Note (by Ed.) [illegible] dying Speeches of the Conspirators of the Gunpowder-Treason Plot. - - - -

Mr. W.S. therein states, "That he Became acquainted with my Masters Vaux, and Catesby, from their Frequenting the Globe Theatre; that they were civil, mannerly Gentlemen, whom he never could have Supposed would have Engaged

70

70

in as facinorous an undertaking! the probability Remains that extra [illegible]

[illegible] and 2d and of the Actors therein Recorded. ~ that Mr. S. - not wishing to see the horrid sight of their Execution, Procured the inserted Account from Mr. Hemingse - who had Attended at the same. -

Note by Hon. John Byng.

W.H.I. had Gotten from Mr. Earles Shop, in Greek St. Soho; or from Mr. Herberts valuable Collection; many Old and rare Books: besides the various Works, and thinks, that it Belonged from his (Shakspeare's) Mother, — [illegible]

such as had Belonged to W.S. - -

f. 34. ~~Fabrication~~ by Wm. Hy. Ireland.

Verses on our young, and bravest Hero, George Clifford, the Valiant, and Renowned, Earl of Cumberland.

Goes, which of you Stood by at Cliffords birth?
S' ys he from Venus? Its shape doth shew it.
Let Mars be proud to say that face is mine:

For courage in his brow is firmly fix'd.
Dear to his Queen, that blessed morning star,
Joy of Great England, Maiden of the Isle;
Clifford by all Beloved, by friends Adored. —
Untainted with the form of gilded pride;
Mercy thy study; Charity thy guide;
By nature Fram'd for Great Southampton's friend,
To Difference like his, thou'lt gently bend. —
From Shakspeare, take these lines devoid of art,
So! silver-tipt, they trickle from the heart:
Ah London! for thy deeds thou shalt be proud,
Nor Neglect aught of art to Praise his name,
Darkness and Confusion, thou Spotlight Fame!

f. 26.

Note by Hon. John Byng.

W. H. S. was often, before me, lamenting himself to the unfortunate Chatterton "Yes, Lee Lewis, he Thought and hoped [illegible] Lord Northampton; Found not a Patron; &c. &c. — So Finished, sadly, his Life!!

"On this account, he said, he Restored the character of Mr. H. S.; and Wished that he could Print him at any Price for a fortnight

Community" — with the exception that a Mark, the Friend in Oil Inkstands — says "Not one word Genuine, was found among Mr. Brooks's Not — the Gentleman could not part with it, but had Permitted him to take a Copy."

He left this copy with me, for a short time, & I transcribed it, in these pages, so far beyond my log book of the person of Richard. It was very long, and I have inserted it in a handsome pocket volume, bound and Tho. Dimitt.

76.

Copied from Samuel Ireland's Journal.

Mrs. Byng to Samuel Ireland

Wednesday night. June 15th. 1796.

My dear Sir, I went out of Town before your Son came this morning but left word where he could see me at ten - he came and wrote the enclosed which I send you to read and seal. He told me he had written you a long letter, acknowledged his error and was sorry it had not arrived while I was with you - That night having written it, he walked home with me and I gave him the parcel to take home and the letter from you.

He seemed extremely hurt and dissapointed as he had hoped more from his letter. I must tell you that I asked him if he was riding on Sunday, he said, "No" upon his honour, I expressed myself surprised, saying I had seen a person who had seen him. He (unable to decypher the part)

I then mentioned the Pantaloons which he seemed to think nobody noticed, and that he need not cover a pair of Breeches of Saleen - Allow me to say, if he is to be saved, it must not be by harshness, as his mind always seems to harden when that is used towards him, however he may deserve it, you ought to know best (?) but I only judge from what I have lately seen - he seems quite affected whenever he thinks of you or his Aunt feel kindly towards him - Let me have a line from you and believe me Yours sincerely. B. Byng.

Note:- Samt Ireland himself could not decypher all the above letter - such words as he made out are written by him over the top. G.H.L.

June 12th.1796. Hon.J.Ryng to Sam.Ireland.

77

SUN INN BIGGLESWADE

Dear Sir,

Since we parted in the new Road,my thoughts have been but upon one Subject.& yours I should think were occupied in the same way - I long to hear from you - that you may Bewilder me,as much as I did you - & Bring back some of my former belief -, but how can that be done ? The Mechanical part of this operation you must Believe to be his - & who would write or indite Plays for his advantage ? -

Your young man is a Prodigy - one way or the other- & to Cover one Deceit - has told a thoudand Lies,but they have Begat each other - & were not intended at starting.

I came to this Place to Shelter from my family - & wish sometimes to change a Son - & Run the risk of Genius- I really Dread his being hard Driven - Say to me all you hear, all you Fancy, & if it would Restore you,& afford any Peace - I Repeat to you - come to me for two or three days - If alone - I shall be on the Return on Saturday - if you come I will stay till Sunday - One Coach sets out at 7 o'Clock from the White Horse Fetter Lane, & two others from the Saracens Head Snow Hill - on my Horse you may ride back -

Copied from Samuel Ireland's Journal.

June 16th 1796 Saml Ireland wrote to his Son from Mr Byng's house - pointing out the dangerous position in which W.H.I. stands - and that he (S.I) will be liable to an action from each of the Subscribers to "Miscellaneous Papers" if W.H.I persists in his assertion of being the Author

June 16th 1796 I wrote ye note (as above) to Sam, at three o'clock, He was expected to call there in the evening, but before I finished it, came ye letter from him, as below and with ye wafer still wet that made me conclude he was then in Mr Byng's house - Before I left Mr Byng's about ½ past 3, Mr Franklyn (Gilbert Franklyn of Wimpole St) came in and appeared fully satisfied that Sam was ye Author of all ye papers, but after half an hour's conversation with him, he seemed again to be shook, and I found had made an appointment to receive him ye next morning at breakfast at 9. I left Mr Franklyn at Mr Byng's and came home.

W.H.I's letter states his intention of writing a pamphlet of the whole circumstances - and encloses an authorization to Albany Wallis to disclose the whole affair to his father and deliver to him the papers &c in proof.

June 17th 1796 Friday - I called on Mrs Byng, who seemed much alarmed that she had not seen Sam - since his breakfasting with Mr Franklyn in ye morning as he promised. This made me uneasy, and I called on Mr F. when I found Sam had breakfasted with him and stayed an hour.

Albany Walls. I am now more Bewildered than ever.- If W can be got Rid of - it were all the better - as he seems so deep & dry - Do you hear from,or see Franklyn - He Began all Warmth & good Intentions, but perhaps Madame has laid hands upon him. Pray write to me fully,It will ease your mind,& Gratify mine - With my best Wishes that this Business may, in the End, turn out Comfortably to you, is the Wish of Yrs.truly

J.Byng.

This letter was copied from Saml Ireland's Journal.

Mrs. BYNG TO SAMUEL IRELAND.

Wednesday night. June 15th.1796.

My dear Sir,

I went out of Town before your Son came this morning, but left word where he could see me at ten - he came and wrote the enclosed which I send you to read and seal. He told me he had written you a long letter,acknowledged his error (?) and was sorry it had not arrived whilstvI was with you - That night having written (?) it he walked home with me and I gave him the parcel to take home and the letter from you.

He seemed extremely hurt and disappointed as he had hoped more from his letter. I must tell you that I asked him if he was riding on Sunday,he said"No",upon his honour, I expressed myself surprised,saying I had seen a person who had seen him. He answered (?) endeavoured (?) evaded (?) any doubt (?)

I then mentioned the Pantaloons which he seemed to think nobody noticed,and that he need not cover a pairbof Breeches of Sateen - Allow me to say,if he is to be saved,It must not be by harshness,as his mind always seems to harden when that is used towards him,however he may deserve it,you ought to know best (?) - but I only judge from what I have lately seen - he seems quite affected whenever he thinks of you and or his Aunt feel kindly towards him - Let me have a line from you and believe me Yours sincerely

B.Byng.

It is impossible to decypher the whole of this letter.Mr.Ireland himself evidently could not read much of it,the few words he could make out are written by him over the top of the original words - K.H.L.

Copied from Samuel Ireland's Journal.

July 4th 1796 Monday - Saw Mr Byng who had been out of Town a week and had left a letter with a parcel for my Son, but he had not been to his house during the time he had been gone, nor did he, as he said, know anything of him -.

July 6th 1796 I saw Mr Byng this morning who had called on Mr Earle and had a confirmation of all that passed between us yesterday, as above, with this addition, that he himself was under a sacred promise, or oath, I know not which, not to say more than that he believed that if ye party was now to be informed of ye papers having been surreptitiously taken from him, he would prosecute ye party or parties to Death.

July 8th 1796. I called on Mr Byng, not finding him at home, I wrote a letter to Sam (asking him to meet him at Mr Wallis's or Mr Byng's) which I left with Mrs Byng requesting it might be forwarded to him as soon as possible.

July 9th 1796. I saw Mr Byng at 2 this day, he brought ye keys of my Son's wardrobe and desired to give me ye two books I desired, and that Pearce Plowman's Visions and another tract was to be delivered to him and that in a day or two he would send for the History of England that was inlaid with prints - to which I said, I do not intend to deliver any more books of Sam's till Mr Earle's debt was discharged - We went to Mr Wallis's and engagement was made that that Mr Franklyn and Mr Byng be at Mr Wallis's on Monday next at 2 - and that Mr W. insisted on my attending - to which I rather objected thinking it Sam's duty first to make some atonement to me for ye peculiar injury done - I however, submitted to whatever should be proposed by those who appeared to be his friends. Mr Byng and myself afterwards called upon Mr Earle to whom I mentioned that Mr

81 83

Copied from Saml Ireland's Journal

1796.

Samuel Ireland to the Hon. John Byng

Dear Sir,

Notwithstanding what passed this day, I yet persist in my request that my Son will meet me on Monday at Mr. Wallis' at one which will be before the Appointment with Mr. Franklyn will take place. Pray tell Sam he need not be afraid of seeing me, for if he wishes it I will not mention the papers. I want to see him on a matter of business. Pray tell him that the Piers Plowman is a book I particularly want and will give him in exchange my works to a fair and reasonable valuation of it, and include the Tract, if he likes it. It is Mr. Wallis' particular desire and I beg he will not fail to meet me, nor do I see how anything can be determined on for his advantage till our meeting can be had.

I amm &c.&c. July 9th. (1796) evening.

Byng had taken the two books, Booker's Bloody Almanack and Plowman's Visions but that no more property of his should go until his account was adjusted with Mr Earle.

In the evening I wrote the above note to Mr Byng.

July 4th 1796 Mon
and had left a le
to his house due
said, know any

July 6th 1796.
Earle and had
as above, with
mise, or oath,
hewed that if
having been su
party or pari

July 8th 1796.
a letter to Sam
I left with Mr
possible.

July 9th 179
of my Son's
and that Pea
to him and
England tha
tend to delu
charged - W
that Mr From
2 - and the
jected think
for ye pecu
he proposed
myself aft

f. 41. Mrs Winder to Mrs Byng

83

Vaynor Park, 18th July 1796.

My Dear Friend

Your young Man arrived here yesterday Morn[g] he sent me a Note from Welshpool on Saturday Night — He was much surprised and very much [illegible] — [illegible] & I have frankly told him so — time will alone discover the mistery — for it is very astonishing — you [illegible] — [illegible] convinced — the [illegible] he has not [illegible] for [illegible] believe ought to be very pleasing to him — I saw him first, and he advised with me — to know which I thought [illegible] unravel the business — or speak himself — I immediately determined on the latter — to be ingenuous & candid playing — proper confidence [illegible] to pursue & tell the tale himself — I have my fears will be of my Opinion — I have not time to enter into particulars [illegible] be proper to commit matters secret to the ink of a Letter [illegible]

[illegible]

everything — but he confesses that he is not
surprised we should have doubts — he
now wishes he had been less in hopes
of giving further proofs of his very sincere
penance — I have no planned [illegible]
[illegible] wrapt up in Flannels —
I long for a change of weather — it would
be of service to him — I will take care
to introduce the young Man, only to those
he may safely associate with — & give
him a caution not to contract any
acquaintance with some he may chance
to meet with — It will not be difficult for
Mr. W[illegible] to know how he spends his time when
he get settled at the Farm — I wish you
you was with me — Accept my warmest
Regard & remain ever Dear better half —
the Travellers with mine to Mr. L. and that
[illegible] deserves his best respects to you & [illegible]

Adieu Dear most tenderly
Yr affectionate
[illegible]

Note by Hon. John Byng

f. 42 This Effusion of W. H. S. was written in Wales, in the Summer of 1796; and this Transcript was sent to me by Mrs W. S., whose house is found in London.

Advice.

Dear mind I like to see legs fit,
Not perches of the flesh with furious feet
Or changing hands the blood with dry ice
For a those feelings are both opposite
So are the kiss that attack Prime Bard
Contribution field Grand Alexandrine Brewst
Fools were among in that of Clarpatra
Nero's Delight was Lord and cruelly
Exhibit in Ulysses lost and famous wages
But Dr. I hear that from the Greeks to

Of Commerce the mean & sordid Soul
Mean was his Gaze & contracted his Soul
Shrunk but to plenty & pelt he rose with
Off time at School felt the Correction
Not dealing out with Money his above
Off Sure he found not in his fellows Sports
Not Sullen & contrite Spirit was chief
His thoughts on nothing but pine Remains
The correct but his years proclaimed him Man
But like a Wolf let loose upon the Sheep
His greedy thoughts would soon on all Degrees
The Rich the Poor become victims his prey
The Orphans Tears reach not his flinty Breast
Nor can th' all melting tear of Pity
Moisten the hardness of his Icy Heart
Or in his bosom one one under Seed
Of that O gentlest Pity!
So wane his Lamp of Life till wasted out
And stretch'd upon the chilling bed of Death
He looks around for help but looks in vain
No Friend is there to soothe his agony
Naught save his hopes of God that would cheer him
Pondering on his Sins as many Years

Against an humbling [illegible]
Whilst he from [illegible] Rebel [illegible]
And pleasing [illegible]

Shakes o'er his trembling breast the pointed lance
which fast he grips within his bony hand
then raising up his arm he ghastly smiles
and buries deep the point within his breast
thus Avarice by twice by every one accurst
and goes unpitied to his Mother Dust.

f. 43. Wm. Hy. Ireland to Hon. John Byng.

July 23d. 96

My D.r Sir

On my arrival at Berriew I delivered Mrs Byng's letter & afterwards told Mrs Hinde the fatal story she as you may suppose was thunder struck however as soon as her surprise had for a little subsided she told me I had rather confide in Mr Hinde & I did so accordingly they were hard of belief though I think we convinced at present of the whole business I have been to Montgomery & a place

called Lymore near it where there is an old House belonging to Lord Poole (mind I do not mean Poole Castle) it is quite in the right style & pleased me much I have been to several Villages after the new fashion since coming myself with walking or coaching I must inform you that I found three curious little books at Shrewsbury & another I got at a farmers for nothing. Mr Winder is confined with the Gout he is not a Man in any way at all & I find him of a very odd Temper the Country is delightful but the weather (except at Intervals) very bad.

I left in Mr Wallis's hands an order for either you or him to dispose of the Mare the sooner it is done the better as she is extreme and according to the old Farmer being near head off. out of the Money which she is sold for Mr Wallis is to have to Governess the ——— of the 2 last Terms he last time when he is paid I would thank you to see him Destroy or return to me the 2 notes which I gave

him on borrowing the money. – If you can
him persuade him as much as possible to
get Harris to accept the ~~[illegible]~~ of the 2nd for
though I have given it to my father I think
he would not be so unkind as not to give me
part of the money – Pray remember me to
Mrs Byng most kindly. He has that Mrs Wilder
is exceedingly kind & has made me as welcome
a possible I must not forget Frederick & your
son Henry with all gratitude for your
past kindnesses & I sincere hope that
I shall in future prove myself worthy
give me leave to sign myself

Yours ever obliged

W. H. Ireland. alias Wm Shakspeare

Mr. & Mrs. Wilder present their best love &
compts to yourself & Mr. Byng.

Addressed

To

The Honble John Byng

Stamp Office

London.

Copied from Samᵗ Ireland's Journal.

Aug.12th.1796,"SUN" Biggleswade Friday ev. 97

The Hon.J.Byng to Sam.Ireland.

Dr.Sir,

I have just learned that your Son has quitted Wales & is gone to Gloster on to Bristol etc.etc.

That is all I know.

With every good wish towards you, I took infinite Pains to Save him.

Yrs.Sincerely

J.Byng

Write to me & say if you Know anything.

---

f. 54.

Samᵗ Ireland to Hon. John Byng.

Dr Sir

Your favour has not a little surprised me, I should have noticed the receipt of it before, but have only this mot been able to see Wales, the I thought might have had some intelligence on ye subject, but I learn that he has heard nothing.

99 '01

I asked him if he expected this Conduct, & he only replyd, he had lied so long that he was surprised at nothing — nor could I get any further from him on ye Subject — This Conduct you must agree with me — must go to ye Establishd ye papers — Cecile — tells me this day that he will swear to have seen ye Mss. of Orr 1 & 2 before Sheridan saw ye Original — and that [it] his moment he believes them all genuine. I saw Mrs Byng yesterday — she is well & talks of being wth you on Friday if ye ... ton; ... w the ... in o ... ct o ... s

nearly returned Cow, I shd be extremely happy to accompany them, but fear I shall not be able, more especially as your stay will be so short — If through any channel you shd learn further of this unfortunate youth pray let me know — I need not say I am extremely anxious shd this unhappy Subject.

I have heard from some people who saw Elliston last night that report has so much extraordinary & that he distinctly denies — in determining that he will not take to chase him — once again — With every wish for yr health &c believe me Dr Sir,

Yrs. very truly S. Ireland Aug. 16th 1796 London

Addressed — Hon.ble J. Byng, Sun Inn Biggleswade, Bedfordshire.

? Windham

Copied from Samt Ireland's Journal.

Hon. John Byng to Samt Ireland

Sun, Biggleswade August 18th.1796.

Dear Sir,

I could have been better pleased with your Company than your letter, why not have come and idled your time away with me?.

Mrs.B. is with me and has received a long history from Mrs. W. (Winder) of your stray Son, in which though much oddity and wildness of temper may be attributed to him, there appears to be nothing very improper or reproachable.

From the Vehemence of Mr.W's temper the difficulty of settling in that County and after many wild and inconceivable histories - He determined upon going into Devonshire, to his friend near Tiverton; Remember all that, and who is He?. and accordingly by the kind assistance of Mrs.Wi (Winder) who advanced him five guineas out of her own pocket (which you must instantly repay me) he took his second flight by the way of Water Conveyance to Gloucester -

Thus the matter stands - Thus the Welsh project ended. And where his friendsin Devonshire live and who and what they are you know as well as I do - I must wish, as you must do, that the Papers were genuine, but how this flight could go to establish them or how the the ignorant imagination of Mr.Earle should tend to prove them so, I cannot see - He has not written a line to me since I informed him of of the sale of his horse and of my trouble on that account. Nor do I find he has written to Mrs. W. (Winder) or to Mr.F. (Franklin) So of what his future prospects are I am ignorant.

Mrs.W. (Winder) furnished him with an excellent plot for a play, which he said he would directly set about - Thus ends the third Act of of this eventful Play, and there may be more acts to be produced.

In the 4th. Talbot may come upon the stage - and in the 5th. The Truth may come out -

Present our Compliments to your family and believe me to be

Yours &c. J.Byng

I shall be in Town about Wednesday next.

Wm. Hy. Ireland to Hon. John Byng

Samⁿ Ireland refers to this letter in his Journal Vol I p. 244 & states that it was dated in Aug. 1796 & shewn to him by the Hon. J. Byng 24th Aug 1796.

I know not how it [is] my Dr. Sir that you will appear an infidel, as to what I have communicated to yourself Mr. Ellis & Mr. Franklyn can you suppose me such a Rascal as to pledge myself so solemnly as I have done, in a manner so strong as that which is written under my own hand in the possession of Mr. Ellis can you suppose, tho' I got acquainted with me, who if you please were just out of my nest entirely & defying I say my Infant, that what I have communicated to yourself Mr. Ellis & Mr. F. is the truth & full account of the business in the letter which Mrs. Wilder received at the time I did mind you there seem to ask why I was so anxious about my Trunk - I was so further desirous of having it than any better than 3 weeks with only a shirt & pair of Stockings I certainly must have, on it any inconvenient. As to writing to my father or letting the Truth be acquainted certainly will so neither as it would bring

on fresh altercations as to the Oath I cannot do it without being guilty of Perjury for at the time he alludes to I make me to make the Oath, no person but Talbot and myself knew of the business but one I then swear there was a third person I am convinced Talbot would not take such an Oath he says in his Letter if I will join in it that he will take it he must certainly know I should not do any such thing & thus throws it off himself upon my shoulders.

As to Mr. Eole he is the most consummate liar I ever heard what he swore at Chambers when he has called on me was the Greatest Perjury I solemnly declare to mercy over in Lieu of Mr. the 2nd in the old hand writing the * & Leaves which I took my father. As to my having taken papers to Copy at his ~~the house~~ House it is the most arrant lie that was ever uttered - I can only say Mr. Eole has the Title of the greatest liar in the Trade Mr. Harding of Pall Mall says of him that he never believes one word he says -

at the time I wrote to you I did not
or Walter a Tuesday — I was much sur-
prised in a Letter which I received from
the Letter to hear him say nothing of it.
I must beg of you to ask him whether I
may depend on him or that I [am to do].
I am without a farthing & tired of this
way of living myself. I have lit on a
Subject & am working on it & doubt not
but I shall [be] able to make it meet
with success it is quite an old story &
I think must please — Pray speak to
my father about allowing me some
small sum. I am now at Penshurst but
cannot tell you at present where to Direct
to I am strolling to find some place where
I can stand & be heard of me & have
wrote about it. Is it the Play of Ot?=? I
shall not trouble myself about such a thing
I have given it up — so let my father do
what he pleases with it. I must now write &
do something for myself with best wishes
regards to Mrs Byng Fred & all believe Dr
Sir Your ever Obliged Servt W. H. Ireland Junr.
Addressed To The Honble John Byng Stamp Office London.

Wm. Hy. Ireland to Hon. John Byng

A copy of this letter appears in S. I's Journal Vol. I p. 248 & is there dated Sunday 4th Sept. (1796) Bristol

Sept.

At length my dear Sir I think I have a situation which is at once perfectly easy & as romantic I am in a wilderness of the finest spot in Kingston Hill overlooks all the Richmond Grounds in the Welsh Mountains. It is within a mile of the Jerry Hill where the Prince lives & respects.

I am oblig'd to you for your particular kindness in discharging my debt & tho' it is a sharper stroke than I have been thus long used to, yet I am glad I think the more I feel myself so very oblig'd but ~~[illegible]~~ pray, Sir, let me not so much older & consequently wiser on me such merit? I know for what I do Sir, you shall never, no never, want of Gratitude.

I look in the Papers wou'd rather be happy to find the business of the World is totally stopp'd I hope my Father will be at length convinced if he is not I fear there will be more fruitless in his mind than mine

<u>[illegible] Regent</u>. I met a Clergyman who made inquiries about that unhappy young man & I learnt but little more than I had already learnt & read in <u>Lord Byron</u>. I also saw the Lady in which he is and I have found the Parchments. I finally release herein for some Copies [illegible] in prose Stanzas which he afterwards published & worked up into Poetry — as it is it may be one a wonderful young man. I will again beg of you to speak to my father & Mr. Franklyn about me you know before my father said that he would do any thing for. Mr. F. offered me 30 £ for the first year & I am now pretty well settled but have no money when permitted to draw immediately. I shall [illegible] write to you for [illegible] there mention the matter to him. — I should esteem myself obliged if you would be so kind as send the cattle & write by the Bristol Mail Coach to be left at the George Inn Temple Gate Bristol till call'd

[E]

for my letters you will treat me as — pray send for the future under my own cover to prevent my being fettered me. —

I have a most excellent story ready prepared by myself which I have learned will have good effect at Spremberg & shall introduce it as soon as I have an opportunity in your letter. Pray Remember me most kindly to Mrs Ryng Mr G. & Fred. & believe me my Dr Sir

Yours very obligd
C. H. Jackson.

Sunday
2 Oclock

My letters
to be left at Mr Hankins
Bond St
Dundee Dove near Bond St.

Informed
To
The Stockdale John Ryng
Stamp Office
London.

I am exceedingly confused my Dr Sir
at having heard from you
about the days ago I sent note
to Mr Franklyn but he has taken no
notice of my letter I am now living
without money & cannot go on unless I
do not pay my way I am very
sorry to be [illegible] safely say not strangely
if Mr F. — will give me leave to draw on
him for a small sum or if my Father
would assist me I should be obliged he
I conceive must have forgot the money
I lent him but memory are so apt
treacherous. I must intreat you my Dr
Sir to mention all this to Mr F. and
likewise speak to my Father for in you
my Dr Sir I find the only Person inclined
to serve or assist me. Pray Remember
me to my Dr Mrs Byng tell her I shall
have Elves, Goblins & spirites to haunt
the forest Tyrder Boards, She will love
folly & the Language of a Fool will only
give attraction from the Grove therefore

let my manifest good <u>[illegible]</u> go to every
[illegible] it will not effect a [illegible]
Day [illegible] is [illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible]

to yourself I offer a sincere & thankful
heart which shall for ever study to prove
itself

Your's most obliged
W. H. Delaney

Sept 15. 1790.

(address half that gone)

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

India Planter the same liberality may be expected as from a trading Bristonian. The first money I get by my Labours shall not instantly replace him his 3 or 4 guineas but think not. I still rest there I have essays my Son at Sabine & some there we shall know whether I can paint to the life or not. — As to my father dissatisfaction at my Conduct I have carefully consid'd my Circumstances & the result is that I am less inclined to think my Conduct reprehensible than ever. I did not think you would give him my address but it signifies little. I am tired of work and hope the story I have laid upon ill succeed. I shall write to Talbot as you hinted my Dr Sir & tell him my present situation — I shall not neglect Mr Wellington. I received the cattle safe but that was my employer instead of receiving me as which I had made bit about half a dozen times Pagler has sent one almost every wt. I shall trouble you to send that in return on the other side to him. Love to most

ashamed to intrude so much on your kindness
remarks Friendship bounds me but that I
have no cond do will take the trouble for
me - the trouble is my own.

You need not mention my good Sir in
your Letter how much you have cheered for
me I know it but too well I also know my
own unworthiness yet I feel within a
something which though I cannot place it
on paper assures me with too much energy

Iam Yours devotedly
W. H. Ireland.

Pray be kind enough to let me know how
to Direct to Mr Pagler.
my best Remembrances to Mrs Pagler my D.
Fred & Henry.
Pray for the future direct my Letters to be
left at the Post Office Hackney near London.

For Mr Pagler

I received the bottle safe which you
sent the Mouth Morning a long time -

and instead of finding it almost a new one I must receive more than 5 times which was one. This not worth 10s. Bridle. Not it is not my wish of you to not endeavour my loss & further [illegible] I shall apply to some Person who will force you to comply – the Saddler will make Oath that the Saddle which you have sent me is not the one he made I must insist on having it immediately & shall return you your own again. – The Bridle is my own you will pay the Carriage of the Saddle as I shall not be at double expence

W. N. Ireland

Sept. 28th, 1796.

(Addressed)
To
The Honble John Pryng.
Navy Office,
London.

Gilbert Francklyn to Hon. John Byng 127.

My dear Sir -

Your intercession in behalf of Dalrad would not want weight with me, nor was I less inclined to relieve distressed merit than I actually am but in this young man I really no longer find any or any hope that I shall do so

When he went into the Country he promised he would shew his abilities and convince me he was capable of being the Author of the papers in question - after having been 6 weeks in the Country I wrote him a letter to which I recd not an answer but a frivolous letter to inform me he had been walking in the Country, you sent him five Guineas; he borrowed

five more of Mrs Sinders, abused her recommendation, by borrowing more of her friend.

I send you his letters, the last without date but by the p: mark was written in Sep: but no place from whence dated, and this in answer to a letter written to him before he left Mrs Sinders.

I cannot any longer think of [him] but as an idle dissolute young man who is totally undeserving my protection or further regard.

I am Dr Sir

Your very faithful
and obedt Servt
Gil.t Franckling

Hinpole Street
30 Sep.r 1796.

Note by the Hon.r John Byng

(at end of letter in another hand) – This poor Gentleman – could not withstand his Wifes Sneers – and the hoax; besides his Terror of Expence: So in the most shabby way – he – after violent Relief – excessive encouragement to – and Promises to W. H. S. – Deserted him basely in the hour of need.

f. 48.

It will appear - from these Letters - how long, and why, I Listen'd to the Persuasion of Hope; as did W.H.J. - to an Expectancy of pecuniary assistance from me. - From him, I did, then certainly Expect such efforts of Ability; - as might, - in some measure, Comfort his Believers: Nor could I, then, Believe (nor can I scarcely now) that a Lad so capable; - of such wonderful Invention, - Labor; - (and Deceit;) Incapable of Being a Post! - or of making Early Discoveries - of his Aiders, - Abettors; - or to; in such a strange, such a Calumnious design!! - That We (I include not myself in the list of able men) Were grossly Imposed upon; and led astray; is Proved to be but too true!

Our Hopes -, our Fancies, were Lifted up, by a continuation of Visits; and by an absolute promise of having the whole History, (- from the beginning,) laid open to us; to have the Gentleman Owner of these Papers - to appear, personally; - and to convince us, and to the World - how these Papers came into

his possession. — This Gentleman, whom our heated imaginations — would fill us, must be a descendant of Mr. Wm. Henning, — the Publisher of the 1st. Edition of Sh. works, a proprietor of The Globe Play House, and in whose family Mr. Mr. Jeffries — said he was my Relation.

This unknown Gentleman added fuel to the inflamed Mind — of the unfortunate, and deluded, Mr. J., by Writing Letters to him, (Letters of sober, and discreet, civility,) in praise of his Son; and in Confirmation of the Mss: and that he would make himself known, — at a proper time, to Mr. J. — (I have seen several of these Letters signed H.) To this Gentleman, Mr. J. sent the civillest answers, (by his Son,) expressive of his gratitude; — Wonder; Fears; and hopes, that Mr. H. would soon come forward, & clear up all Doubts. —

So Tricked; so Deceived; so Buoyed up by the Opinions of many men of Skill, and Literature; so Provoked by Flattery, Hope, —

Poverty, a wise, and more considerate mind than Mr. S., might have been led astray. —

In one instance, I, strongly, [illegible] the desire of Mr. K. that the Play of Rotgan might not be acted —; and when the said Play was weakly, and maliciously, so be played, — I think from London, not to be a Witness of its damnation: and with that, the complete discomfiture of all that was, it could be produced — from the Stage Free. —

f. 49

Wm. Hy. Ireland to The Hon. John Byng.

Dr Sir

I should not have neglected calling on you but that I was informed some time since of your being displeased with me in one Account or other. If any Action of mine has been faulty blame me then I assure you that I not merely regret it — I am fearfully sorry it has

perhaps precluded any good wishes you might have entertained towards me. If however you have not altogether discarded me let me once more intreat you will stand my friend. Believe me Sir I am not living on a scanty sum which the Sale of some few Articles has produced me that gone I am ✠ left Utterly destitute. My father has been several times applied to but in vain as it seems he cannot control me O! Sir could I but obtain a situation which would baffle the Idea of starving I should be blest were it in the remotest corner of England If you will but think of me you will not only confer an Eternal obligation but save

Your unhappy
W. H. Ireland

Friday
1 O'clock.

Was my Mind at ease in any Situation I would soon write for the Stage & repay any obligation which I might incur.

(✠ address left torn away)
R.S.

Copied from Saml Ireland's Journal.

Nov.17th.1796. J.Byng to Sam.Ireland.

Dear Sir,

I did not Know till my coming home yesterday, from your house - that your Son had called upon me - which he did on Monday, leaving word that he would call again - Say to me - then - What I shall say to him ? or how a Door of Reconciliation may be opened ?

My Grand Wish is for Peace & Amity, So if I can Reconcile Father & Son I shall be happy.

Yrs etc. J.Byng.

Call upon me at the ~~f.O.~~ Stamp Office to-morrow & give me yr.Answer.

---

f.o. 36.

Note by the Hon. John Byng.

Hark, I hear his gentle step:
It thrills upon my heart, like some soft note
Struck from a Lovers lyre

These lines I transcribed from a Play Call'd Bertha - said to be written by W.H.I.
Decr 13th 1796.

f. 73.

Jane Ireland to Mrs. Byng

57.
141

I thank you kindly for your inquiries after my dear Father whose sufferings are indeed more than can be expressed. He now has taken to his bed, & is in a perfectly helpless state. Indeed it would be wicked on my part did I wish the existence of a beloved a Under-Parent, (in his present melancholy state,) but should it please that Providence who judges all things rightly, to restore him again to his unhappy family they will indeed have reason to return the most grateful thanks for his recovery — Should it be otherwise they must (tho' difficult the task) reconcile themselves to the idea that 'whatever is, is right.' Mrs Freeman & my sister are well & thank you for your remembrance. I wish I could tell you that that pleasure is at present denied me, who my dear Madam believe

me yours truly obliged

J. I —

(in another hand, in pencil "Jane Ireland")

Norfolk St

Give kind regards to Mr Byng.

addressed. — Mrs Byng.

My Dearest Madam,

I shou'd say that to forgive this Station, & quit the present Elevated Scene, might cause you it could have afforded me the greatest satisfaction, and I have summoned resolution to have seen you yesterday, but my Spirits were too much Depressed, & found it impossible. The Death of my ever to be lamented Father has indeed been a severe stroke, but the reflection he now enjoys those Blessings (Peace, & Tranquility) which his Mind was a stranger when living, ought to reconcile me to the separation tho' as it is!! ——

You will pardon my at dwelling on the painful, & distressing subject as it adds all to my present uneasiness & brings to mind a thousand circumstances that I wish buried in oblivion. ——

When you return to Sloane St. I flatter myself you will keep me in remembrance as I trust I shall never give you reason to

after the favourable sentiments you have been pleased to entertain of me, I trust my future conduct, forfeit, what I most covet, (your countenance, & friendship.) To Mr. Byng, I request you will mention me in the most respectful, & kind manner, adding (that as my dear departed Father considered him as one of his best, & kindest friends) I shall ever feel for him the greatest degree of esteem — My Aunt sends her thanks with mine, for your, & Mr. Byngs kindness & attention & hopes ere long personally to express her sentiments

I remain Dr Madam
your truly obliged
& unhappy
J. Leland

Norfolk St.
Sunday June 15th (1800)

addressed. — Honble Mrs Byng
Sloane St
Knightsbridge

146. Copied from W. H. Ireland's Confessions - 1805.

Queen Elizabeth's Letter

During the frequent conversations that took place after the production of the first documents, I heard peculiar stress laid by the Hon. Mr. Byng on a letter supposed to have been written by James Ist. to Shakespeare, and which it was stated might be found among the papers; but as so many conversations were held upon that subject, I thought the production of such a letter would be too obvious in addition to which I was totally unacquainted with the writing and autograph of that monarch. I therefore determined on fabricating a letter from Queen Elizabeth to our bard.

A Second Hint

To the same gentleman who gave me the first idea of writing a letter as from Queen Elizabeth to our bard, by his frequent mention of the letter said to have been written by James (her successor) to Shakspeare, I am also indebted for the idea of writing a letter to Lord Southampton, with it's answer, which originated in that gentleman's so frequently laying a stress on the supposed bounty of that nobleman to our bard, and the light which would be thrown on the fact should any document be discovered denoting the sum so given by his lordship.

146A.

July... At his houſe in Norfolk-ſtreet, Strand, Samuel Ireland, eſq. author of a number of elegant and eſteemed works, and particularly known to the world as the poſſeſſor of the forged MSS. aſcribed to Shakſpeare. He was originally a mechanick in Spitalfields, but, taking advantage of the proſperity of the age, commenced ſpeculator in books, prints, and drawings. He had ſome ſkill in drawing and engraving, and, with the experience he had acquired of the public taſte, ſought to turn it to account, by combining it with deſcription, under the name of Travels. With this view he publiſhed, in 1790, "A picturesque

146B.

picturesque Tour through Holland, Brabant, and Part of France, made in the Autumn of 1789." Encouraged by the success of this attempt, he produced, in 1792, "Picturesque Views on the River Thames," 2 vols. 8vo; and, in 1793, "Picturesque Views on the River Medway," in one volume. These works were illustrated with engravings in aquatinta, which are not destitute of merit, and were much admired. In 1794 Mr. Ireland published a very useful and ingenious work, under the title of "Graphic Illustrations of Hogarth;" and it was a singular coincidence, that, about the same time, Mr. John Ireland, also a mechanick, but no wise related or connected, published a book on the same subject, called "Hogarth Illustrated." The next transaction in which Mr. Samuel Ireland solicited the attention of the publick was the disgraceful forgery of the Shakspeare papers, in 1796. In that year, after an ostentatious display of the supposed treasure at his house in Norfolk-street, Mr. I. published, in a four-guinea volume, "Miscellaneous Papers and legal Instruments, under the Hand and Seal of William Shakspeare: including the Tragedy of King Lear, and a small Fragment of Hamlet, from the original MSS. in the Possession of Samuel Ireland." The circumstances attending the discovery and exposure of this audacious attempt on the public confidence are too public and too recent to require recapitulation. It was averred, both by father and son, that the imposition originated with, and was entirely conducted by, the young man, without the privity or participation of his parent; but this fact many strong circumstances lead us to doubt: the complicity appears obvious, and it even seems that some part of the forgery could not have been conducted by the son alone. The father seems also to have felt the indignation of a disappointed speculatist, which he vented in two angry pamphlets against Mr. Malone, the first detector of the imposture. His last publication, which is very recent, is "Picturesque Views, with an historical Account, of the Inns of Court in London and Westminster," in one large octavo volume, price 2l. 2s. or, on quarto paper, 4l. 4s. which has appeared since his decease, Mr. I. having died on the day he had sent the last sheet of it to press.

P. 902. Mr. Ireland published also "Picturesque Views of the Severn and Warwickshire Avon, where he first acquired an itch after Shakspeare MSS. He navigated down this poetic and enchanting stream, attended by a very modest and well-informed man, Mr. John Jordan, who is by trade a wheelwright, and possesses considerable knowledge in history and antiquity, and is also no mean poet, as may be seen by his "Wolcomb Hill," a poem, published in London, 1777, 4to. Having a retentive memory, his knowledge of parochial antiquity all around him is wonderful. It was Mr. Jordan who gave Mr. Ireland his first information, on which he created his visionary falsehood.

f. 70. 54.

Note by Hon. John Byng. 147

My character of Samuel Ireland Esq.r; — answer to the foregoing, in the Obituary of the Gentleman's Magazine. —

December 1810.

Sir,

Having Read, very lately, in the Obituary of The Gentleman's Magazine, a strictly-cool and seemingly-impartial account of the late Samuel Ireland Esq.r, of Norfolk St.t, Strand; I shall Endeavour, so far as I am able, to Rescue the memory of an unfortunate man from the malicious statements of a most unconcerned Mangler: driving to Lay the character of the deceased smoothly in the Grave; however Scar'd by the pen of hatred, malice, and uncharitableness. — Such subtle, underhand, posthumous, murders — have now too often been Perpetrated by the secret machinations of envious, malignant Criticism. —

Attack'd and massacred like the Swiss-guards, (on the 10th of August 1792), Mr. Jo. Jane has been Exposed in the high-way, for the abuse, and detraction of a wicked world.

that Mr. J.d was a Mechanick (a low term Dwelt upon), was my portable; and if so, it Redounds, - highly to his credit, & have Come forth a Literary man: a man Possess'd of many Sciences; (more than most men,) and so have used them liberally, and fairly, to an honest advantage.

That Mr. J: purchased many books, was well known; but why is he Term'd Speculator more than other Gentleman Book Collector, who Buys, Sells, and Exchanges? -

No man has a right to Stamp the term - Disgraceful Forgery upon the deceased - (to whom such forgery was deadly) unless the writer could prove his assertion. - As to the ostentatious display, made by Mr. J; an eager man of hope, and poverty, it might, surely, have been Pardon'd, when he Gave up his time, without any remuneration, for his civil, hospitable, display of the Stat. these Mss. - An attempt, somehow, was attempted; (scarcely not Developed)! But to Become the deceased from a Lucrative Attempt,

and of Conflict, Prove your Obituary-Writer, I have made by few Inquiries into the circumstances of the Forgery. — Living Beloved by his family, and Esteem'd by many men of worth, and learning, Mr. J. gained an honest livelihood by his Engravings, and by his writings upon various topics.

Few Men united in one person, (as Mr. J. did) the Draftsman, the Engraver, and the Penman; and, yet, these several branches of knowledge have been alledged, with infamy, against his memory!

Mr. J. Died a Martyr to false hope; easy credulity; and despair: and, but for an imposition almost Forced upon him, might now have flourished an healthy, an happy man. —

To, wantonly, and ignorantly, Calumniate the memory of the Dead, under the plausible mask of truth, is such Stabbing in the dark, such an offence against the black Act, as would shudder me to Expatiate upon. — Mr. J. from a warmth of hope, the advice of his friends, and from the suffrages of the learned,

to easily Behaved a Mass of forgeries
Handed to him by his only Son. - Flattered
to ruin, destruction, and death, Mr. J. Struggled
on (neither a Planner, nor Assistant, in the
fraud,) till Deserted by many who should have
Shielded him; left to poverty, Obloquy, and
despair, he Fell a Victim to a Sharp Shot
from the nearest hand!!

The latter months of Mr. J's life would
frame a most melancholy Tale!

His forgiveness of the youth who Drew the
fatal Bowe; his tender parting with his family
and his resignation to an hastened End; should
have Screen'd him from the unmerited sting
of an inveterate, ignorant, peevish, Commentator:
who Delights to Trample upon the dead;
and has not Benefitted by the beautiful
Lines of Dr. Johnson -

From zeal, or malice, now so more the Dead
Nor English vengeance Vents not with the dead:
A gen'rous foe Regrets with pitying eye,
The Man whom fate has laid where all must lie.

your constant Reader

Gent's Magazine Supplement Dec. 1800.
By the Hon. John Byng.

154.

1800.] Ireland *misrepresented.*-

Mr. URBAN, *Dec.* 17.

HAVING read in your Obituary, p. 901, a seemingly-impartial account of the late Samuel Ireland, esq. I have no doubt but you will permit me to rescue the memory of an unfortunate man from the statements of some malignant criticks, and to lay his character smoothly in the grave, however scarred by the pen of hatred, malice, and uncharitableness. Attacked and massacred, like the Swiss guards in August 1792, Mr. I's fame has been exposed in the highway for the abuse and detraction of a wicked world. That he was a *mechanick* (a low term dwelt upon), was very probable; and, if so, it redounds highly to his credit to have come forth a literary man, a man possessed of many sciences (more than most men), and to have used them literally and fairly to an honest advantage. That Mr. I. purchased many books was well known; but why is he to be termed a *speculator* more than can be any other gentleman book-collector who buys, sells, and exchanges? No man has a right to heap the term *disgraceful forgery* upon the deceased (to whom it was deadly), unless the writer could prove his assertion; and as to the *ostentatious display* of Mr. I, an eager man of hope, it might surely have been pardoned, when he gave up his time, without any remuneration, for his civil, hospitable, fatiguing, display of the Shakspeare MSS. An attempt somewhere was made (scarcely now developed;) but the man who accuses the deceased of an *audacious attempt*, and of *complicity*, can have made but few enquiries into the circumstances of the forgery. Living, beloved by his family, and esteemed by many men of worth and learning, Mr. I. gained an honest livelihood by his engravings, and by his writings on various topics. Few men united in one person, (as Mr. I. did) the draughtsman, the engraver, and the penman; and yet these several branches of knowledge have been alledged with infamy against his memory. Mr. I. died a martyr to false hope, easy credulity, and despair; and, but for an imposition almost forced upon him, might now have flourished

f. 146.

Part of an Epilogue, written by Dr Bryan, Intended for the Tragedy of Cartigan

If the Child's dying — [illegible]
With such anxiety, about its Sire?
Or if you'll not admit its fathers claim,
Rear it beneath a foster fathers name;
Least Prettymans hard fate should him befall,
And Critics vote him no ones son at all.
Forget the prejudice of frigid art,
To Read the code of nature in the heart;
Consult her laws, from partial envy free
And give as that decides, a just decree. —

An engraving by J. Wooding after Sir Godfre; Kneller. of Betterton is inserted and beneath it in W. H. I's hand are the words
"Thos. Betterton from an original picture in the possession of Samuel Ireland."

Mr. URBAN, *August* 16.

IN p. 618. of your Magazine for July, the biographer of "that very antient and respectable gentleman, Thomas Wood, esq. of Littleton, co. Middlesex," asserts that he had been more than once solicited to represent the county, but that he always declined that fatiguing honour. This is not an exact statement of the case. Mr. Wood *did* actually represent the county of Middlesex for a short period, viz. from the death of Mr. Serjeant Glynn, in 1779, to the dissolution of Parliament, in 1780 (Gent. Mag. vol. XLIX. p. 518.) at the very earnest request of many respectable freeholders, and by the unanimous voice of his constituents. The case, which must be fully in the recollection of many of your readers, was this. Upon the demise of Serjeant Glynn, two candidates expressed their intentions of offering themselves for the county, Mr. Tuffnell under the auspices of Lord North, and Mr. Byng, supported by Opposition. Both gentlemen were already in Parliament; the former for the borough of Beverley, the latter for that of Wigan. Col. Tuffnell solicited, and without difficulty obtained, the Chiltern Hundreds, as the means of vacating his seat. When Mr. Byng applied for the fictitious "stewardship," it was, to his great astonishment, and in violation of all precedent, positively refused him. The Premier was well aware what would be the result of a competition between his favourite and that of the county, if both were made eligible; and therefore Mr. Byng was kept under a legal disqualification. This arrangement, of which the popular speakers of the day very loudly complained, was not calculated in its event to answer the intention of the Minister; and the freeholders of Middlesex, who had gone through many an arduous struggle, in the support of their independent elective franchises, against *Mr. Fox*, Lord North, and a variety of other opponents, were determined to chuse for themselves, and not to accept the gentleman so indecently crammed down their throats by ministerial mandate for their representative. Accordingly, on the 28th of October, 1779, the day appointed for the election, THOMAS WOOD, Esq. as upright and as virtuous a country gentleman as ever lived (then considerably past his 70th year), was induced to accept a seat in St. Stephen's Chapel as Knight of the Shire for the County of Middlesex; an honour to which no man ever was introduced with more clean hands or a purer heart. He was nominated by Mr. Byng, and by the present Lord Sydney. The victory was decisive. The election was completed without a dissentient voice. Mr. Wood took his seat; and kept it, till the general election in 1780 allowed Mr. Byng to propose himself, without the possibility of impediment from the "noble Lord in the Blue Ribbon," as a candidate for the distinction which he held till the day of his death.

A regard to historical truth, and respect to the memory of a gentleman to whom I had the honour of being related, induced me to send you the above particulars, which I am sure you will not hesitate to insert. You may rely on their authenticity.

On the subject of the Chiltern Hundreds I cannot forbear adding a short anecdote, not perhaps well known to the generality of your readers.

A noble Duke, some years since deceased, not in any great repute for the steadiness of his principles, suddenly took a short turn in his politicks, and, from being a vehement opposer of Government, enlisted himself openly under the Ministerial banners. A member for one of his Grace's Northern boroughs continued to vote in the Minority. An official hint was sent from his illustrious patron, that Mr. ——— would oblige the Duke by asking for the Chiltern Hundreds. "No, my Lord, you must ask them for me yourself. I have been in parliament these twenty years, and never was yet ambitious of the honour of being a placeman!" Y. G.

THE FARINGTON DIARY.
July 17th.1806.Mr.George Byng 1764 - 1847.has £20,000 a year.
George Byng b.1735 of Wrotham Park Middlesex,was his father.

PLYMOUTH
WILLIAM BRENDON AND SON
PRINTERS

The Hon Edmund Byng as friend of Geo Dawson Jun and Jun 1823

Gent Mag Aug 1799

Mr. URBAN, *August* 16.

IN p. 618. of your Magazine for July, the biographer of "that very antient and respectable gentleman, Thomas Wood, esq. of Littleton, co. Middlesex," asserts that he had been more than once solicited to represent the county, but that he always declined that fatiguing honour. This is not an exact statement of the case. Mr. Wood *did* actually represent the county of Middlesex for a short period, viz. from the death of Mr. Serjeant Glynn, in 1779, to the dissolution of Parliament, in 1780 (Gent. Mag. vol. XLIX. p. 518,) at the very earnest request of many respectable freeholders, and by the unanimous voice of his constituents. The case, which must be fully in the recollection of many of your readers, was this. Upon the demise of Serjeant Glynn, two candidates expressed their intentions of offering themselves for the county, Mr. Tuffnell under the auspices of Lord North, and Mr. Byng, supported by Opposition. Both gentlemen were already in Parliament; the former for the borough of Beverley, the latter for that of Wigan. Col. Tuffnell solicited, and without difficulty obtained, the Chiltern Hundreds, as the means of vacating his seat. When Mr. Byng applied for the fictitious "stewardship," it was, to his great astonishment, and in violation of all precedent, positively refused him. The Premier was well aware what would be the result of a competition between his favourite and that of the county, if both were made eligible; and therefore Mr. Byng was kept under a legal disqualification. This arrangement, of which the popular speakers of the day very loudly complained, was not calculated in its event to answer the intention of the Minister; and the freeholders of Middlesex, who had gone through many an arduous struggle, in the support of their independent elective franchises, against *Mr. Fox*, Lord North, and a variety of other opponents, were determined to chuse for themselves, and not to accept the gentleman so indecently crammed down their throats by ministerial mandate for their representative. Accordingly, on the 28th of October, 1779, the day appointed for the election, THOMAS WOOD, Esq. as upright and as virtuous a country gentleman as ever lived (then considerably past his 70th year), was induced to accept a seat in St. Stephen's Chapel as Knight of the Shire for the County of Middlesex; an honour to which no man ever was introduced with more clean hands or a purer heart. He was nominated by Mr. Byng, and by the present Lord Sydney. The victory was decisive. The election was completed without a dissentient voice. Mr. Wood took his seat; and kept it, till the general election in 1780 allowed Mr. Byng to propose himself, without the possibility of impediment from the "noble Lord in the Blue Ribbon," as a candidate for the distinction which he held till the day of his death.

A regard to historical truth, and respect to the memory of a gentleman to whom I had the honour of being related, induced me to send you the above particulars, which I am sure you will not hesitate to insert. You may rely on their authenticity.

On the subject of the Chiltern Hundreds I cannot forbear adding a short anecdote, not perhaps well known to the generality of your readers.

A noble Duke, some years since deceased, not in any great repute for the steadiness of his principles, suddenly took a short turn in his politicks, and, from being a vehement opposer of Government, enlisted himself openly under the Ministerial banners. A member for one of his Grace's Northern boroughs continued to vote in the Minority. An official hint was sent from his illustrious patron, that Mr. ——— would oblige the Duke by asking for the Chiltern Hundreds. "No, my Lord, you must ask them for me yourself. I have been in parliament these twenty years, and never was yet ambitious of the honour of being a placeman!" Y. G.

Born 1764 - 1847

It was George Byng who was Member for Middlesex and John Byng

THE FARINGTON DIARY.
July 17th.1806.Mr.George Byng 1764-1847.has £20,000 a year.
George Byng b.1735 of Wrotham Park Middlesex,was his father.

PLYMOUTH
WILLIAM BRENDON AND SON
PRINTERS